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CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

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18 April 1980

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Wins 'Political Victories' Over Israelis at IPU Conference [London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 15 Apr] A 1
Fatah Official on Talks With Kuwait, Relations With Libya [Kuwait AL-WATAN 15 Apr] A 2
PLO Denies Issuing Statement on Dispute With Libya [VOP] A 3
Fatah Official Leaves UAE for Kuwait 16 Apr A 3
VOP Reports Joint Press Statement on Marchais-'Arafat Meeting A 3
VOP: Mali Agrees To Opening of PLO Office in Bamako A 4
INA: Finland Recognizes PLO; Office To Be Opened in Helsinki A 4
Muslim Brotherhood To Hold Secret Conference in Europe A 4
Islamic Conference Held in London 12-15 Apr [cross-reference] A 4

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

AL-WATAN: U.S. Naval Force Granted Facilities in Dubai C 1
Tripoli Summit Axis Will Destroy Arab Unity C 1
Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Chnoupek Begins Visit C 2
Arrives 16 Apr C 2
Meets Prime Minister C 2
Sees Minister Husayn C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sultan Confident of Gulf Security C 2

UAE

Fatah Official Begins 2-Day Visit C 3
Meets President Zayid C 3
Al-'Utaybah, FRG Economics Minister Hold Talks in Bonn [cross-reference] C 3

EGYPT

As-Sadat Grants Interview to Mexican TV D 1
As-Sadat Cables Congratulations to Zimbabwe's President D 4
Former Shah, Shahbanu Visit President as-Sadat, Mrs as-Sadat D 5
Chief of Staff Badawi Addresses Graduation Ceremony D 5
Egypt, U.S., Israel Hold Contacts To Set Date for Negotiations D 5
National Unity Urged After Sectarian Clashes D 6
Police Check 'Religious Fanaticism' D 6
Isma'il, Nabawi Stress Cooperation D 6
Copts' Thank-You Note D 6
Need for National Unity D 6

Communist Party Reactivated in Syria, Soviet Advisors Arrive	D 7
State Court To Try Communist Party Members	D 8
Al-Qadhdhafi Approves Palestinian-Proposed Terrorism Plan [AKHBAR AL-YAWM 29 Mar]	D 9
AL-JUMHURIYAH Denies Egyptians Involved in Attacks on Iran	D 9
West Bank, Gaza Inhabitants Allowed Entry to Egypt [AL-AKHBAR 16 Apr]	D 10
Socialist Labor Party Delegation Leaves for Vienna	D 10
MENA: Egypt Supports New UNESCO Information System	D 10
Sports Groups To Boycott Moscow Olympics	D 11
Autonomy Delegation, Ambassador Return From Israel	D 11
Assistant Israeli Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo	D 12
Indonesian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives for Visit	D 12
Foreign Undersecretary Leaves on Asian Tour	D 12
Transport Minister Leaves Cairo for Paris	D 12
Zairean Defense Official Concludes Visit, Leaves Cairo	D 12
Military Delegation Retruns From Somalia	D 13
PRC Deputy Chief of Staff Arrives in Cairo	D 13
Italian Army Chief of Staff Visits	D 13
Meets Gen Badawi	D 13
U.S. Ambassador Atherton Returns to Cairo	D 13
Tanzanian Deputy Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo	D 13

IRAQ

AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI Reports Execution of Baqir as-Sadr	E 1
Iranian Aircraft Attack Kordestan Villages	E 1
INA: 'Persian Gang' Attacks Iraqi Embassy in Beirut	E 1
Iranian Authorities Execute 4 Arabs in Khuzestan	E 2
AL-MUSTAQBAI Discusses Khuzestan Independence From Iran	E 2
ATH-THAWRAH Criticizes Iranian Regime	E 3
MILLIYET Interviews Government Spokesman on Iran Relations [Istanbul 14 Apr]	E 4
Cuba's Gonzalez Meets Government Officials 15-17 Apr	E 6
Planning Minister	E 6
Trade, Housing Minister	E 6
Deputy Premier	E 6
Athens Paper Interviews Industry Minister At-Tawfiq [cross-reference]	E 6

JORDAN

Amman Radio Calls on Iraq, Iran To Settle Dispute	F 1
AR-RAY'Y Comments on Iraqi-Iranian Crisis [13 Apr]	F 1
Iranian Ambassador Saqafi To Be Transferred [Amman AD-DUSTUR 14 Apr]	F 2
AL-MAJALLAH: King Husayn To Visit PRC, DPRK [London 12-18 Apr]	F 2

LEBANON

Israeli Forces Stage Attack 18 April	G 1
Further Report [VOL]	G 1
Iranian Charge Hit in Hand During Shooting Incident [VOL]	G 1
Amal Movement Issues Statement on Fighting With ALF [VOL]	G 1
Popular Front Leader Reportedly Captured by Amal [VOL]	G 2
Sarkis Receives French Communist Party Leader Marchais	G 2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Cuban Foreign Minister Leaves Algiers 16 Apr I 1
Mauritanian Envoy Delivers Message to Bendjedid I 1

MOROCCO

Marines Seize 21 Spanish Fishing Boats I 1
Bouabid: Libya Endangers Arab, African Stability I 2

SUDAN

Libyan Foreign Affairs Secretary Makes Stopover I 3
Chadian Delegation Arrives With Message From Oueddei I 3

TUNISIA

Petrochemical Cooperation Agreement Signed With Kuwait I 4
'Arafat Meets Bourguiba; Departs 15 Apr I 5

WESTERN SAHARA

Foreign Minister Hails Steadfastness Summit I 5
Saharan Forces Shell Moroccan Positions 12-13 Apr I 5

ISRAEL

Begin Briefs Journalists in Washington on Talks N 1
Further Details N 1
Begin Makes Statement on Return From Washington N 3
Disagreements Between U.S., Israel Reported N 4
Begin Talks With Weizman on Situation in S. Lebanon N 4
Begin: Talks To Be Held in Israel or Egypt N 5
Terrorists Shell South Lebanese Militia N 6
IDF Attacks Terrorist Base N 6
Further Details N 7
Haddad Prevents UNIFIL From Moving Freely in S. Lebanon N 7
At-Tiri Shelled N 8
UN Spokesman's Comments N 8
High Alert Declared N 8
Carter Invites Peres for Political Talks N 8
Embassy Denies Involvement N 9
Reaction to Weizman's Early Election Remarks Reported N 10

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

World Trade Union Conference Adopts Declaration on S. Africa Q 1

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

Attorney General Njonjo Announces Resignation R 1

SEYCHELLES

President Rene Warns of Militarization of Indian Ocean R 1

SOMALIA

Commerce Minister Mohamad Leaves for PRC R 1

TANZANIA

S. African PAC Issues Statement on 'Action Program' R 2

UGANDA

Ruling Council Approves Elections Under UNLF Auspices R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

ZAIRE

Political Bureau Examines Mobutu's Tour, Student Unrest S 1

WEST AFRICA

GUINEA

President Toure Addresses ECOWAS Symposium T 1

LIBERIA

Former Minister, Officials Seek Asylum in Ghana T 3
Minister Says Government Committed to Press Freedom T 3
Four Men Executed for 'Subversion', Looting T 3
Doe Denies Reported Dissolution of Security Service T 4
Monrovia Reports Day's Proceedings of Military Tribunal T 4
Soldiers in Grand Bassa Requested To Report T 5
Foreign Journalists To Report to Information Ministry T 5
Return of Government Vehicles Requested T 6
Doe Urges Close Check of Arriving Planes for Arms T 6
A.B. Tolbert Reported Still at Large T 6

MALI

Traore Comments on Results of Visit to Kuwait, France T 6

NIGERIA

Shagari Leaves for Zimbabwean Independence Ceremony T 7

TOGO

Ministers Praise Military Cooperation With Ivory Coast T 8

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

SWAPO Political Bureau Member Holds Press Conference U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO-SWAPO Communique Issued on Nujoma's Visit U 1

NAMIBIA

Johannesburg: 7 'Terrorists' Killed in Past 2 Weeks U 2

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Returns From Far East; Nicaragua's Ortega Arrives U 2

ZIMBABWE

FRG Foreign Minister Genscher Announces Aid U 2

PLO WINS 'POLITICAL VICTORIES' OVER ISRAELIS AT IPU CONFERENCE

LD171411 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Apr 80 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT special report]

[Text] Oslo--The Palestinian and Arab delegations participating in the spring conference of the Interparliamentary Union [IPU] in Oslo have scored political victories and defeated several Israeli proposals put forward by the Israeli parliamentary delegation.

At the outset of the conference debates several draft resolutions on the rights of the Palestinians were put forward. The Israeli delegation proposed granting "the Palestinian refugees" certain limited rights such as giving them passports. The Palestinian delegation described the content of the Israeli proposal as an attempt to obliterate the right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland and a move toward settling the Palestinians [outside their homeland].

Palestine National Council Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Khalid al-Hasan delivered a speech in which he said that the people who are most sensitive to the word "refugees" are the Palestinians. He said that the Palestinians believe the refugee problem can only be resolved by learning the views of the Palestinians themselves, and that the Palestinians must be given freedom to exercise their right to self-determination.

In the course of his warning to the participating delegations against agreeing to the Israeli proposal, Khalid al-Hasan cited a phrase used by Menahem Begin: "Had it not been for the Dayr Yasin massacre, Israel would not have been established."

Following the discussion of the Israeli proposal, the conferees rejected it and approved a resolution clearly calling for recognition of the Palestinians' right to return to their land and "the creation of the necessary circumstances for the refugees' voluntary return to and settlement in their homeland."

The conferees added in their resolution that "the subject of settlement is a question of individual free choice. The refugees' political and national rights must be preserved."

During the conference debate the Israeli delegation appealed for condemnation of the PLO for "using Lebanese territory as a starting point for acts of terrorism in Israel." Al-Hasan replied by refuting the Israeli allegations and pointing out that Israel's continued aggressive policy makes the political and military struggle against this policy imperative.

After a stormy debate the Oslo conference decided by 99 votes to zero to reject the Israeli proposal confuting the PLO. By the same margin the conference approved a recommendation that the whole Palestinian issue be included on the agenda of the Berlin conference of the IPU despite the Israeli delegation's attempt to block it by calling for backing for "Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's initiative."

As the various delegations' support for the Palestinian delegation mounted, the Israeli delegation was compelled to abstain instead of voting against the resolution. The Egyptian parliamentary delegation voted in favor of the resolution to have the whole Palestinian issue put on the Berlin conference agenda.

The Oslo conference also issued a resolution denouncing the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and calling for an immediate Soviet withdrawal. The conference also passed a recommendation calling on the Iranian authorities to release the American hostages as soon as possible. It also adopted unanimously a resolution calling for the Arab Gulf area to be isolated from international conflicts and for its neutrality to be insured.

FATAH OFFICIAL ON TALKS WITH KUWAIT, RELATIONS WITH LIBYA

LD180835 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 15 Apr 80 p 2

[Unattributed report]

[Excerpts] Yesterday at noon Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad met with Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, Fatah movement representative in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries, who has just returned from a working trip abroad.

Az-za'nun told journalists after the meeting that the purpose of the meeting with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad was to review the latest developments in the Palestinian problem, particularly the decision, which some found surprising, for PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to attend the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front meetings currently being held in Tripoli.

Az-Za'nun explained: We have made it clear that, despite the great pain we feel because of the Libyan attitude [toward the PLO] which, most unfortunately, is continuing with the continued presence of the revolutionary committees [in PLO offices], which we regard as a blatant attack on the PLO. We have decided to attend the meetings after exhaustive deliberations with the brothers in Syria, Algeria and the PDRY so that it will not be said that our refusal to go to Tripoli because of the Libyan-Palestinian dispute might lead to the failure of the conference, assuming that the conference will achieve any success worth mentioning.

Abu al-Adib continued: We gave Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad the facts about news agency reports last week on contradictory statements allegedly made by Hani al-Hasan, director of the PLO office in Tehran, and some PLO officials in Beirut.

The fact is that some journalists in Tehran who are hostile to the Palestinian revolution had a hand in this matter. We were glad to find that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad had a clear picture of the situation. We also informed the deputy prime minister and foreign minister of brother Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to Kuwait. We hope that the visit will lead to a further understanding and cohesion for the sake of the Palestinian problem, especially since Kuwaiti diplomacy was able to achieve a splendid success in the talks between President Giscard d'Estaing and his highness the ruler. We believe that Kuwaiti diplomacy is capable of continuing joint cooperation with a view to backing the stand of the sincere Europeans who have begun to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable and legitimate rights.

Salim az-Za'nun denied that there are differences between the resistance leaders who are now in Tripoli. He said: With regard to Dr George Habash's statements reported in the press yesterday, they were a repetition of statements and stances for which Dr George Habash is known. These statements and stances have not changed since the last meeting of the Palestine National Council [PNC] in Damascus last year.

Asked the reason for the postponement of the PNC meeting, Abu al-Adib said:

The PNC was scheduled to meet on 26 April but there is an inclination to postpone it for some time in order to give the committee, which the PNC charged with laying down principles of understanding on the form of the PLO Executive Committee, the opportunity to complete its work.

He said that this was the only point on which the PNC failed to reach agreement at the last session. This committee consists of members of the existing PLO Executive Committee, the chairman and members of the PNC office and the general secretaries of the resistance movement factions.

PLO DENIES ISSUING STATEMENT ON DISPUTE WITH LIBYA

NC172005 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] A responsible PLO source has stated the following: After the conclusion of the conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in Tripoli, Libya, a statement was distributed in Damascus today in the name of the PLO and the resistance groups on the reorganization of relations between the PLO and the resistance groups on the one hand and the front members on the other, and on the Libyan-PLO dispute.

The PLO would like to emphasize that it has not issued such a statement. Furthermore, no such statement was issued by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Summit Conference.

FATAH OFFICIAL LEAVES UAE FOR KUWAIT 16 APR

JN161847 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 April--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, left Abu Dhabi for Kuwait today at the end of a 2-day visit to the UAE.

During his visit, Abu Mazin held talks with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, in which he explained the latest international and world developments and their impact on the Palestinian cause.

VOP REPORTS JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ON MARCHAIS-'ARAFAT MEETING

NC171617 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to Arab World 1515 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Joint press statement on 16 April meeting held in Beirut between PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat and French Communist Party Secretary General Georges Marchais]

[Text] On the evening of 16 April 1980, Comrade Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, met with brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces. This meeting complements the meeting which was held between the two leaders in Algiers on 31 October 1979 and is within the framework of the traditional solidarity between the French Communist Party and the PLO.

On this occasion brother Yasir 'Arafat confirmed to Comrade Georges Marchais the continuing validity of the joint statement that was issued on the Algiers meeting--that statement which particularly emphasized the failure of the Camp David agreements. Comrade Georges Marchais reaffirmed the French Communist Party's solidarity with the Palestinian People's rights and just struggle. Comrade Marchais affirmed the French communists' determination to consolidate this solidarity until the inalienable rights of this valient people are achieved.

Georges Marchais also affirmed the urgent need for the French Government to invite Chairman 'Arafat to visit Paris. Both sides observed that developments in the Middle East over the past 6 months have confirmed that there can be no just and comprehensive peace in the area without the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and without the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Georges Marchais affirmed the French Communist Party's solidarity with the struggle of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza against occupation, against the establishment of Israeli settlements and against colonization. Comrade Marchais affirmed his determination to organize a solidarity campaign in support of the thousands of Palestinian political prisoners held in Israeli prisons. Finally, the two leaders affirmed the ties of friendship and solidarity between the French Communist Party and the PLO, expressing their joint desire to strengthen this friendship and solidarity to reach a just and lasting peace in the area.

VOP: MALI AGREES TO OPENING OF PLO OFFICE IN BAMAKO

NC151827 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] The Republic of Mali has officially announced its agreement to the opening in Bamako of a PLO office with full diplomatic status.

INA: FINLAND RECOGNIZES PLO; OFFICE TO BE OPENED IN HELSINKI

JN151731 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Helsinki, 15 April--The Finnish foreign minister has affirmed that his government recognizes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

During his talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi in the Finnish capital yesterday, the Finnish minister said that his government has agreed to open an office for the PLO in Helsinki. Dr Hammadi's talks dealt with bilateral relations and developments in the Palestinian issue. Dr Hammadi left Helsinki for Copenhagen today on a visit of several days to Denmark.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD TO HOLD SECRET CONFERENCE IN EUROPE

NC160941 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0803 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--The magazine AKHIR SA'AH today reports that leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood in several Arab countries will hold a secret conference in Europe to discuss coordination within the Muslim Brotherhood in confronting the bloody suppressive operations in Syria. The conference will be attended by delegates from Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco, Kuwait, Tunisia, Sudan, Syria and Iraq.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE HELD IN LONDON 12-15 APR

For reportage on the European Islamic Council meeting held in London 12-15 April, see the International Affairs section of the 16 and 17 April issues of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

KUWAIT

AL-WATAN: U.S. NAVAL FORCE GRANTED FACILITIES IN DUBAI

LD121340 Kuwait KUNA in English 1034 GMT 12 Apr 80

[Text] Kuwait, April 12 (KUNA)--The state of Dubai has granted the U.S. naval force land facilities in the "Bu Ali" region on the Gulf, the AL-WATAN newspaper reported here Saturday. The paper said these facilities caused a political crisis in the United Arab Emirates, the federation in which Dubai is a full member, because the decision was taken without the consultation of the federal government.

It added that the UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan denounced the Dubai decision and informed his deputy and prime minister, Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, governor of Dubai, that he does not approve of granting these facilities to the U.S. Navy.

The Dubai Government decision, the paper reported, was reached during the negotiations between the UAE Ambassador to London Mahdi al-Tajir and the U.S. President's chief aide Hamilton Jordan in the British capital.

The negotiations, recently held, resulted in the signing of an agreement between the American administration and the Dubai Government allowing U.S. naval ships to use these facilities, according to AL-WATAN quoting authoritative diplomatic sources in the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi.

This issue, as well as others too, were the causes for the UAE Minister for Foreign Affairs Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi's recent resignation from the federal government, the sources disclosed.

TRIPOLI SUMMIT AXIS WILL DESTROY ARAB UNITY

LD171138 Kuwait KUNA in English 1050 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Press review of Steadfastness and Confrontation Front summit]

[Text] Kuwait, April 17, KUNA--Extracts from Kuwaiti editorials Thursday:

AL ANBA on the Tripoli summit: "We are not against any bilateral or tripartite meeting between countries whose aim is to achieve coordination, understanding and serious cooperation to serve their common national cause. It is clear that the Tripoli summit resolutions have led to the formation of an axis which will destroy all endeavours for unified Arab work.

"The Tripoli summit has resulted in mere political propaganda and has not reached a decisive resolution in the military field. Support for Syria cannot be achieved in the absence of Iraq and Jordan. The Tripartite Command (Syria-Iraqi-Jordan) should establish an alliance with the Palestinian resistance and all other Arab forces should back such a unity both materially and morally."

CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK BEGINS VISIT

Arrives 16 Apr

LD161120 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0709 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Kuwait--Chnoupek, Czechoslovakia's foreign minister, arrived here today for a 1-day [as received] visit during which he will hold talks about bilateral relations and political issues, including the Middle East. Immediately on his arrival the foreign minister visited the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

Meets Prime Minister

LD161122 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, received CSSR Foreign Affairs Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek and the accompanying delegation at 1100 today. The meeting was attended by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and by the Czech ambassador to the State of Kuwait. The CSSR foreign minister arrived in the country earlier today on a 2-day [as heard] visit.

Sees Minister Husayn

LD171118 Kuwait KUNA in English 1037 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Kuwait, April 17 (KUNA)--The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn met here Thursday with the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia Bohuslav Chnoupek and the accompanying delegation.

The minister told KUNA that he discussed with Chnoupek bilateral relations in the political, economic and cultural fields and the development of these relations. He said that points of view were identical on all matters discussed and that the Czechoslovak delegation reaffirmed their country's support for the Arab cause and understanding of the Middle East problem. Husayn added that the visiting delegation had shown interest in joint economic ventures and in cultural links.

The minister said that specialists from the two countries would discuss all points raised by Chnoupek in his talks with H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and the Minister of Oil Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa as-Sabah.

Meanwhile, the foreign minister of Czechoslovakia and his delegation made an inspection tour today of oil and industrial installations in Ahmadi. The minister was due to leave here today but his visit was extended by 24 hours. A joint communique on the visit is expected to be issued Friday evening.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE SULTAN CONFIDENT OF GULF SECURITY

LD160906 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0725 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, has once again stressed that there are no fears for the security of the Gulf.

In a statement to AL-BILAD published today, his highness stressed the kingdom's ability to defend itself. He stated that we have confidence in ourselves and on one has asked us for bases on our territory.

Prince Sultan explained that the kingdom, with all its capabilities, is working to create a man capable of handling all that armed power requires. He stated that it is not the kingdom's aim to stockpile arms.

His royal highness denounced the venomous campaigns waged by the Western information media against the kingdom and Islam. He said that they are characterized by "rancor and jealousy." He stressed the kingdom's pride in applying the Islamic Shari'ah. He stated that "the best quality in which the kingdom prides itself is the application of the Islamic Shari'ah to everyone without any distinction."

UAE

FATAH OFFICIAL BEGINS 2-DAY VISIT

JN150906 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 April--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, arrived in Abu Dhabi today on a 2-day visit to the UAE. Abu Mazin will hold talks with UAE officials on the latest developments in the Palestine question on the Arab and international levels.

Meets President Zayid

JN151116 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1045 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 April--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan received this morning Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin. The meeting was attended by PLO representative in the UAE Ribhi 'Awad.

After the meeting, Abu Mazin said they reviewed the situation in the Arab region, particularly the Palestinian resistance's position in Lebanon in light of the continued Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon in an attempt to escalate the situation in Lebanon and to hinder all efforts of accord currently being exerted.

Abu Mazin said that during the meeting they also discussed the steadfastness of the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the pressures being exerted against them, particularly in the Gaza Strip. Abu Mazin concluded his statement by saying: His highness the UAE president has reiterated his country's strong support for the Palestine question and the PLO on all levels in their just struggle. This stand is greatly appreciated by all the Palestinian leaders.

AL-'UTAYBAH, FRG ECONOMICS MINISTER HOLD TALKS IN BONN

For reportage on Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah's talks with FRG Economics Minister Otto Graf Lambsdorff in Bonn, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 15 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

AS-SADAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO MEXICAN TV

NC171507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1432 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text of interview granted by President as-Sadat on 17 April in Cairo to Mexican TV correspondent Erica Fixellre]

Question: Mr President, do you believe that the situation in Iran and Afghanistan contributes to tightening the relations between Egypt and Israel in spite of the differences concerning the Palestinian issue in order to face the Russian threat?

Answer: Well, in all candor let me tell you this. The situation in Iran and Afghanistan is a threat to all of us in the area. But after all these years and when there is still an Arab land occupied--either the Golan Heights or the West Bank and Gaza--when there are lands occupied by Israel and also the attitude Israel shows, [it] will not permit any arrangements like you say, because first let us agree upon peace and co-existence between us and then after that we shall be facing any foreign threat. This does not mean that we have after the normalisation of our relations with Israel. [as received] We continue to enjoy normal relations and so but not further than this.

So I am not against the creation a Palestinian state but in the next five years--this is the interim period--there is no room for any Palestinian state because this is a transitional period only and before the end of the five years we shall sit with the Palestinians who will choose their way on having their self-determination like it is quoted in the Camp David accords.

Question: What do you think about Mr Begin's proposals to President Carter to start a non-stop sixty days talking summit?

Answer: I have just learned about it yesterday night. First from Radio Israel and then after that from news agencies and it said also that President Carter contacted me. But he did not contact me until this moment. So I do not know what is the real proposal. Let me tell you this. Any arrangements that could bring us nearer to the fulfillment of the full autonomy before the May 26, I am quite ready to join them.

Question: Mr President, it was several times said that Jordan would never be the first country to sign peace with Israel but it would definitely be the second one. Never has King Husayn joined the peace talks. Why do you think he did not do so?

Answer: For many reasons. King Husayn had what he has put before the Arab world, namely the united Arab kingdom in which he annexed the West Bank as part of the United Kingdom with east Jordan and certain arrangements in this connection.

After that we adopted a decision at in the Rabat conference--and this was in 1974--saying that the sole representative of the Palestinians is the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Since that time King Husayn is wavering in his mind and in his innerself. He wants this united kingdom but before the Arabs he could not say this because he has agreed upon the Rabat conference decision that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinians. He is maneuvering and because I refused to ask him to join us in Camp David he thinks that he can ruin the whole thing and then at last he will be also achieving his dream of the united Arab kingdom. I do not have any objection against this united Arab kingdom provided that the Palestinians themselves choose in a referendum, an internationally sponsored referendum, to join with King Husayn. But neither me nor Carter nor Begin have the right to deliver the West Bank to King Husayn. This is the Palestinians' land and those who decide the future of it are the Palestinians only.

Question: Mr President: Egypt was one of the states which actually played a founding role in the nonaligned movement. It is being reiterated a great deal that Cuban President Fidel Castro affirms and believes that the nonaligned states have a natural link with the socialist states. Do you share this view?

Answer: No, not at all; but let me tell you in particular at this delicate moment, I want to hold contacts with the founders of the nonaligned movement and, to be more exact, with India and Yugoslavia. In Yugoslavia, as you know, President Tito is dying but we are in contact with these two states. We are in contact with India on this matter because what is taking place in Havana is truly ridiculous and comically theatrical. We all know that Fidel Castro receives $12 million daily from the Soviet Union to boost his economy. Despite this his economy cannot stand on its feet. He is now playing the role of agent. You can see this role being played in all parts of Africa, where thousands of Cubans are working as mercenaries. I absolutely disagree with the nonaligned movement--the movement which truly established equilibrium throughout the world and which the world has a greater need of now than ever before--deviating from its source as has taken place in Havana. I hope that through our contacts we will work to correct the course of the movement once again.

Question: Mr President, it appears that Begin and President Carter are facing some serious electoral difficulties; if one or both of them fall from power in the coming year, what do you see happening to the peace process?

Answer: I do not see any difficulties at all. It is absolutely not my duty to choose the person who will negotiate with me. It is the people in the United States who will choose their president and the Israelis will also choose their prime minister as has happened in the past. The peace process, as you recall, was begun soon after the October war by Egypt and the United States. After the second disengagement agreement, perhaps you know, Ford and Kissinger left the Administration and President Carter was elected. We continued the peace process on the same bases we started. Therefore, it is the people who choose representatives and my role is to negotiate with those who have been chosen by their people.

Question: Mr. President, both Mexico and Egypt are considered oil-producing and oil-exporting states. Do you agree with the proposal which the Mexican president submitted to the United Nations calling for a meeting between the oil-producing states and the oil-consuming states to draw up a joint plan to face the anticipated energy crisis?

Answer: It is a wise plan. I submitted such a plan to former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger 5 years ago. I called on him to have the oil-producing states and the oil-consuming states meet to reach some arrangements because whenever the oil-producing states raise prices, the oil-consuming states also raise the price of commodities. There is now chaos in the world monetary system. I believe if the oil-consuming and the oil-exporting states sit down together and reach some arrangements--exactly as your president has proposed--the world will be able to avoid the chaos which is happening now, particularly in the Third World, which is suffering most because most of its state do not have any oil resources.

We in Egypt have oil but we do not have huge reserves like you have. However, we are meeting our local demands and are exporting the rest. We have great hopes of finding more oil, but believe me, if the time comes when we become a major oil-exporting state, I will start negotiations with the consuming nations myself, even if it becomes necessary to start the negotiating process alone. I will do this in order to obtain commodities at a reasonable price and so these states will also get oil at a reasonable price.

Question: Mr President, do you believe that there is a possibility of a Mexican contribution to the peace process at present, in view of its membership in the Security Council?

Answer: Well, we are engaged in the negotiations on full autonomy for the Palestinians. If something happens and we do not achieve our objectives by the target date of 26 May, I believe that Mexico could play a beneficial role in the Security Council by coming up with new ideas and boosting power for the peace process. It could do this even now--if they could convince Israel that the autonomy is a full right of any human being in this world and that the building of settlements on other people's territory cannot be justified at all by anyone.

Question: You are about to receive a friendly invitation from the Mexican Government to visit Mexico. Do you plan to accept this invitation? If the answer is yes, when will this visit take place?

Answer: Certainly, I am looking forward to accepting the invitation. My wife has visited Mexico with you and may I express my deep gratitude for the hospitality and the good feelings which she met there. I will do my utmost to accept this invitation, but, as you know, I am very busy in these decisive moments because of the negotiations and reconstruction. In addition, there are great difficulties posed by the long distance between us. It takes me 8 hours to cross the Atlantic from Washington to Europe. Then it takes another 8 hours to reach Mexico.

Question: The distance from Washington to Mexico is only 4 hours.

Answer: Well, it takes me 12 hours and the distance from Egypt to Europe takes 5 hours--this is a matter of 20 hours or so. I will do my utmost to make this visit, because I believe there are many aspects of similarity between our two countries, even in facial features. There is a great resemblance between us.

Question: You have made the longest journey in history by going to Jerusalem. Indeed, this trip has gone down in history.

Answer: Indeed, and this is despite the fact that the trip from here to Jerusalem did not take more than an hour.

Question: This is perfectly correct. You are considered as one of the presidents of the world who have granted the most interviews to newsmen. Is there any question which you would have liked to be asked so that you could find an opportunity to answer it?

Answer: Well, I am always asked this question. However, believe me, I never prepare myself for anything. I only sit quietly and naturally, as I am doing now. I am ready to answer any question I am asked and there is no prior thought in my mind, really.

Question: But is there not something extremely personal or political about which you would like to be asked sometimes?

Answer: Sometimes, yes. This happens, particularly when there is a specific political crisis or something similar, or when there are dimensions of the situation which have not been explained to the people. However, I think that all things are clear at this time, particularly following my recent visit to the United States last week and following my meeting with newsmen at the American National Press Club--and I announced everything there.

Question: Thank you.

Answer: Please convey to the Mexican president and people all the warm feelings and best wishes of my people for the prosperity of our friends in Mexico. Let us hope that each one of us will exert his utmost efforts in the future in order to bring our two peoples closer together. As I have already said, there are many aspects of similarities between Mexico and Egypt.

AS-SADAT CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO ZIMBABWE'S PRESIDENT

NC171220 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 April--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent the following cable of congratulations to President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe on the occasion of his election as president of the republic and the proclamation of Zimbabwe's independence.

It pleases me to convey to your excellency on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt and on my own behalf most sincere heartfelt congratulations on the proclamation of the independence of your country and on your election as president of the republic. I wish you success in achieving the great aspirations for which your fraternal people struggled for a long time.

Our people, who are linked with your people in the struggle for freedom and independence, look forward with confidence to strengthening and deepening the channels of fruitful positive cooperation for their common interests and for serving the goals and aspirations of our African peoples so that their will may freely create their life in their land in accordance with their independent power in order to contribute toward the establishment of better world society.

With my sincerest regards and best wishes for your health and happiness, I wish your fraternal people progress and glory.

Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a similar cable to the president of Zimbabwe: It pleases me on the occasion of the independence of your fraternal country and your election as president of your fraternal country and your election as president of the republic to convey to your excellency heartfelt congratulations coupled with best wishes for your health, happiness and everlasting success. I wish your fraternal people to achieve all their aspirations for progress and prosperity.

FORMER SHAH, SHAHBANU VISIT PRESIDENT AS-SADAT, MRS AS-SADAT

NC171500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1433 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 April--Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the former emperor of Iran, and Shahbanu Farah Diba today called on President as-Sadat and Mrs Jihan as-Sadat.

The visit follows the shah's recovery from the surgical operation which he had in Cairo. The shah wanted to express his appreciation of, and gratitude for, the noble and civilized Egyptian people.

CHIEF OF STAFF BADAWI ADDRESSES GRADUATION CEREMONY

NC171225 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 April--Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi has affirmed that the political leadership is devoting great attention in this phase to the development of the armed forces in training and armament so that they will not lag behind the requirements of the modern era and so that they will remain strong and capable of fulfilling their commitments and responsibilities.

Speaking at a graduation ceremony of a new group from the war academy, he said: It must be clear to everyone that our eagerness to modernize our arms and equipment stems from our sensing the nature of the current phase and the importance of the area because we cannot ignore the events and movements taking place around us.

Addressing the new officers, he added: Hence, it is obvious to you the gravity of the responsibility we are shouldering and the extent of the effort and sacrifice required so that we remain at the level of this responsibility which the great Egyptian people honored us with.

The graduates include students from Tanzania and Somalia. The ceremony was attended by Assistant Defense Minister and Chief of the Training Body Maj Gen Ahmad 'Abd al-Ghaffar, Tanzanian Deputy Defense Minister (Charles Masanta), Assistant Minister of Interior for the Police Academy Maj Gen Dr 'Abd al-Karim Darwish, Chief of the Police College Maj Gen Husam 'Abd al-Ghani, several African and foreign military attaches and relatives of the graduates.

EGYPT, U.S., ISRAEL HOLD CONTACTS TO SET DATE FOR NEGOTIATIONS

NC172004 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that Cairo, Washington and Tel Aviv are now holding contacts to agree on a date for the commencement of intensified negotiations on full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The three sides have agreed to hold these negotiations continuously in the coming 40 days to achieve the objective before 26 May, the target date for the completion of the negotiations.

Our correspondent has also learned that one view under consideration says that the first round of negotiations should be held in Herzliyya and the second in Alexandria or Mena House in Al-Jizah.

The Egyptian side in these negotiations will be headed by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, the U.S. side by President Carter's envoy Linowitz, and the Israeli side by Interior Minister Dr Burg.

NATIONAL UNITY URGED AFTER SECTARIAN CLASHES

Police Check 'Religious Fanaticism'

NC151913 Cairo MENA in English 1845 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, Apr 15--Interior Minister Nabawi Isma'il urged the police today to check resolutely any act of religious fanaticism.

Addressing a ceremony of the graduation of a new class of police cadets, Isma'il said that the home front is in good shape as the great majority of Muslims and Christians are keen on preserving the stability and security of the home front.

"The fanatic minority, Muslim or Christian, does not affect national unity in Egypt", he said.

"The millions of men of good will among the Muslims and Christians," he added, "should form an element of pressure against the fanatic minority."

Isma'il, Nabawi Stress Cooperation

NC151915 Cairo MENA in English 1847 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, Apr 15--Interior Minister Nabawi Isma'il and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen Ahmad Badawi stressed today the close cooperation between the Egyptian Army and the police.

This came in speeches by the two leaders at the opening of a new Interior Department for the driving licenses of army officiers' cars.

Isma'il said the relations between the two elements had reached the point of "fusion."

Badawi said the cooperation between the two elements went back to deep-rooted national traditions.

Copts' Thank-You Note

NC171601 Cairo MENA in English 1525 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, April 17 (MENA)--Coptic deputies in the Peoples Assembly are currently preparing a note of thanks for President Anwar as-Sadat to be handed to him during a meeting with them expected to be held on Sunday, the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY learned.

Peoples Assembly Deputy William Sayfayn said that the note expresses Egyptian Copts thanks to the president for his efforts to maintain the spirit of national unity.

Need for National Unity

NC180830 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--AL-AHRAM reports today that after an emergency meeting, which was held in Abshawi Convent in Wadi an-Natrun the day before yesterday, the Holy Synod of the Egyptian Church decided that it is necessary to unite all efforts to safeguard the solidity of the national unity.

The paper adds that the meeting, which was attended by the 55 bishops, members of the Holy Synod, and members of the General [Coptic] Communal Council, the Coptic Religious Endowment Council and the Alexandria Communal Council as well as by some Coptic dignitaries decided that Father Matta al-Maskin, father superior of the Wadi an-Natrun monastery, and Lawyer Hanna Nayruz should convey an initiative by the church to President as-Sadat in his capacity as the father of the Egyptian family.

The church's initiative includes a decision by the Holy Synod stressing its eagerness to safeguard the national unity and the eagerness of the church to pursue a course which would preserve the homeland's dignity and the church's faith that President as-Sadat would spare no effort in laying down rules that would end all problems which several parties are trying to exploit to undermine the national unity.

AL-AHRAM further reports that Father Matta al-Maskin, who attended the Holy Synod's meeting, conveyed to the Synod members the details of the meeting he had with President as-Sadat at his own request. In his more than 1-hour speech to the members of the Synod, Father Matta emphasized the following:

1. President as-Sadat is eager to safeguard the interests of the Copts in Egypt. In this regard, Father Matta said that the president told him: I care for the Copts. Before being a part of the homeland, they are a part of me. I am responsible for them in my capacity as the head of the family and of the state. I am more responsible for them than any other party.

2. Law should be implemented in all cases of excesses by extremists on both sides [Christians and Muslims].

3. Egypt, as a state, wants the spiritual role of the church to prosper, and it wants the church to spread faith among its subjects, but there should be a dividing line between religious action and political action.

AL-AHRAM further says that the Holy Synod approved a proposal which Father Matta al-Maskin had discussed with President as-Sadat providing that a 10-member committee of the People's Assembly--five Muslims and five Christians--should investigate the facts of the recent incidents and consider some problems of the Copts of Egypt and submit its recommendations to the prime minister to adopt immediate decisions.

The paper adds that the proposal was unanimously approved by the members of the Holy Synod, who believe it will obviate any possible future confusion between the role of the state and that of the church and thus spare the church any embarrassment of involving itself in matters which might be considered political.

COMMUNIST PARTY REACTIVATED IN SYRIA, SOVIET ADVISORS ARRIVE

NC160955 Cairo Mena in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--The weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH today reports that 1,000 Soviet experts recently arrived in Damascus accompanied by consignments of new Soviet arms on the pretext of training the Syrian forces in their use. The magazine notes that sending these experts was part of a secret agreement between Al-Asad and Moscow to intensify the Russian military presence.

Meanwhile, the magazine says that the 'Alawite Ba'thist command in Syria has decided, as a result of pressure on Damascus from Moscow, to allow the Syrian Communist Party to work freely in the political field, broadly exercise its activity, and open offices in Damascus and other Syrian cities. The party has also been given permission to publish a daily party organ.

The magazine says that Moscow set down public recognition of the Syrian communists activity as a basic condition for its military and economic assistance and support to the ruling 'Alawite regime.

The magazine says that the Syrian authorities have released Riyad at-Turk, who led the opposition movement against Khalid Bakdash, the leader of the party, over the party's domestic and Arab policy. Moscow has settled the conflict between At-Turk and Bakdash in order to coordinate the Syrian communists activity and restore the organization of the party ranks within Syria backed by the Soviet Union.

STATE COURT TO TRY COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS

NC162200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2038 GMT 16 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--The Supreme State Security Prosecution today referred 30 defendants to the Supreme State Security Court on charges of establishing, organizing and running a communist organization called "The Egyptian Communist Party" between late 1977 and 16 August 1979. The organization's aim was to have one social class control other classes and to destroy the basic foundations of society. The prosecution also ordered the arrest of 24 other defendants living abroad since it has been proven that they staff branches of the party. This was announced in a press conference today by Counselor Raja'i al-'Arabi, the public attorney at the Supreme State Security Prosecution.

Counselor Raja'i al-'Arabi, in his press conference, added: The accused who have been referred to the Supreme State Security Court have for the first time been made subject to the parties law No 40 of the year 1977 and its amendment by law No 36 of the year 1979. Article 22 applies to them. This article makes liable to imprisonment anyone who, in violation of the parties law, forms and establishes an illegal partisan organization, even under the cover name of society, authority or organization. The penalty is life imprisonment or a shorter prison term at hard labor if the secret illegal organization is against the social system.

The public attorney also said that the 30 accused include lawyer Ahmad Nabil al-Hilal, AL-AKHBAR journalist Faridah an-Naqqash, Director of the New Culture House Muhammad Yusuf al-Jundi and AL-AKHBAR journalist Husayn 'Abd ar-Razzaq. They formed and managed an organization seeking to establish the domination of one social class over other classes and sought to destroy the basic foundations of the social structure.

The use of force, terrorism and illegal methods is noticeable [in what they did]. They formed a secret organization under the name of "the Egyptian Communist Party." Its aim was to antagonize the legitimate authority, call for hostile alliances to confront the legitimate authority and turn the masses against it, prepare for popular revolution and for the creation of an Egyptian society based on Marxist foundations similar to the general situation prevailing in the states which apply them.

Counselor Raja'i al-'Arabi added: This illegal organization was in violation of the laws in force and is based on principles hostile to the social system. Furthermore, the accused, among themselves and publicly, advocated an ideology that aims at changing the main principles of the constitution. They issued leaflets containing propaganda for Marxist principles and incitement to overthrow the regime. They issued tendentious statements and made tendentious propaganda aimed at disturbing public security. They possessed printing equipment to print literature containing propaganda for the "Egyptian Communist Party" organization.

The public attorney ordered that the criminal charges against defendants 31 and 32; namely Zaki Murad and Jawdah Sa'id ad-Dib, be dropped, because they are dead.

The public attorney of the Supreme State Security Prosecution ordered the arrest of 24 defendants who represent the party in branches abroad: in Paris, London and the FRG. Among these defendants are Mahmud Amin al-Alim, Ahmad 'Abd al-Mu'ti Hijazi, Mishael Kamil, Ghali Shukri, George al-Bahjuri, Ahmad 'Abbas Salih, Alfred Faraj and 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Ghazali. The names of these defendants have been placed on arrivals lists at the airports and ports.

The public attorney of the Supreme State Security Prosecution said that the prosecution will give the defendants abroad the chance to defend themselves. They are accused of establishing the secret organization of "the Egyptian Communist Party," which aims to destroy the basic foundations of the state. He further said that the prosecution is still investigating 38 other suspects who are members of the organization but not included in the reference decision. The prosecution has not completed a statement on their case.

Documents, papers, typewriters and a manifesto of the organization, which described it as one of the international communist movement groups, have been confiscated. The documents raise the slogan of forming the so-called "democratic national front," which the all the forces opposing and rejecting the Egyptian regime. The documents also call for kindling class conflict and the national unity party [as received] among the classes of society.

AL-QADHDHAFI APPROVES PALESTINIAN-PROPOSED TERRORISM PLAN

WA161705 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 29 Mar 80 p 1

[Excerpt] Tripoli--News Agencies--Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held a meeting 2 days ago--Thursday--which was attended by a number of persons responsible for terrorist operations in several Palestinian organizations and a representative of the revolutionary command in Iran.

Observers said that the object of the meeting, which was reported by Radio Tripoli but did not provide any elaboration, was to study a scheme submitted by the Palestinian terrorists for spreading terror in a number of Arab and world capitals. Its estimated cost of 50 million dinars would be financed by Libya and Iran. The terrorists have named the scheme "Ayatallah" [i.e., the sign of God] which calls for simultaneous terrorist operations in a number of capitals.

Col al-Qadhdhafi welcomed the scheme and approved it. The Iranian representative, however, opposed it, saying that the ruling revolutionary leadership today is concerned with returning the former shah to Iran and bringing him to trial. This was despite the fact that the "Ayatallah" scheme pointed to the possibility of kidnaping the shah and returning him to the ruling authorities in Tehran.

The Iranian representatives attacked the operation. He said that if it were carried out, it would be subject to worldwide scorn, on the one hand, and, on the other, would squander millions of dinars in the pockets of the terrorists who would plan and execute it.

The meeting broke up with the provision that the terrorists restudy operation "Ayatallah" and then convene a new meeting of the three concerned parties.

AL-JUMHURIYAH DENIES EGYPTIANS INVOLVED IN ATTACKS ON IRAN

NC140615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2257 GMT 13 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 13 April--In its Monday commentary, AL-JUMHURIYAH denies the Iranian foreign minister's allegation that Egyptians are participating in the attacks on Iran from the Iraqi borders. The paper stresses that this statement is completely untrue.

The paper says that Egypt is a civilized state and not a group of gangs and that while it helps anyone who seeks help, it very clearly declares this in time to all the world, as happened when it helped Zaire against disguised Soviet interference.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: A point which the Iranian foreign minister and his government must be well aware of is that Egypt is Arab, and it places its Arabism above all other considerations. On this basis, Egypt is carefully watching the situation in the Gulf, the tension Iran is creating in the area and the regional ambitions it declares. Egypt had previously warned that any interference in the Gulf or a threat to any of its states will be confronted with all firmness.

WEST BANK, GAZA INHABITANTS ALLOWED ENTRY TO EGYPT

LD171553 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 16 Apr 80 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Al-'Arish-Gaza land route open yesterday"]

[Text] The town of Al-'Arish yesterday received groups of West Bank and Gaza inhabitants who arrived in the morning following the opening of the land route between Al-'Arish and Gaza for the entry of Palestinians to Egypt without a visa as well as for the passage of foreigners and private vehicles after obtaining visas from the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The Egyptian Services Department have provided the necessary facilities to the Palestinians who have expressed joy at being able to visit their families and kinsfolk in Egypt for the first time in 13 years. The groups that entered Al-'Arish included 40 families as well as some students in Egyptian universities and three foreign tourist groups.

Maj Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani Karrar, deputy minister of interior and director of Northern Sinai Security, said it has been decided to allow the Palestinians residing in Al-'Arish to travel to Gaza once every month without an exit visa. There are some 630 Palestinian families in Al-'Arish.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR VIENNA

NC152140 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--A Socialist Labor Party delegation, headed by party chairman Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, left Cairo today for Vienna on a visit of several days at the invitation of the Austrian Government.

The delegation, which includes Layla Takla, secretary of the party's Foreign Relations Committee, will meet with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and certain leaders of the Socialist international.

MENA: EGYPT SUPPORTS NEW UNESCO INFORMATION SYSTEM

NC171258 Cairo MENA in English 1200 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 17,(MENA)--Chairman of the Radio and Television Broadcasting Federation 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din asserted today Egypt's support of establishing a new scientific system for the flow of information to achieve equivalence between the developing countries.

In his speech before the International Conference for the Development of Communications, Jamal ad-Din said that the system is considered one of the legitimate demands of the Third World, supported by Egypt, and that this will be implemented through the framework of the United Nations scientific, educational and cultural organization, UNESCO.

Egypt has submitted a defined programme comprising the setting up of a bank for information within the framework of the UNESCO, organizing the use of satellites to serve mass communications in the developing countries.

The Egyptian programme also provides studying the possibility of establising a satellite network under the UNESCO to be used as symbolic payment as well as the establishment of an international center for training employees in the field of information.

The conference started its work at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris last Monday and is attended by delegations from a hundred member states of the organization.

SPORTS GROUPS TO BOYCOTT MOSCOW OLYMPICS

NC131806 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Cairo, 13 April--Various sport organizations and institutes in the Arab Republic of Egypt have expressed their support for President Anwar as-Sadat's decision that Egypt will boycott the Summer Olympic Games to be held in Moscow.

A statement issued today after a meeting of the heads of sport unions and organizations said that President as-Sadat's decision expressed the feelings of all Egyptian sportsmen and organizations.

The statement said that representatives of various sports unions in Egypt, committees of referees, management or technicians will not participate in any work assisting the organizing committee of the Moscow Olympic Games at any level. This will be an expression of and commitment to the same national line of ethics which Egypt's leadership, government and people always adopt in serving questions of justice, fraternity and peace free of ideological or colonialist domination.

The heads of Egyptian sports unions and organizations today met with Minister of Youth and Sports Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Hasan at their request to discuss the stance of Egyptian sportsmen, management, technicians and referees regarding their participation in the Moscow Summer Olympic Games, particularly following President Anwar as-Sadat's statement on Egypt boycotting the games.

AUTONOMY DELEGATION, AMBASSADOR RETURN FROM ISRAEL

NC131450 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 13 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 13 April--Ambassadors Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif and Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raziq returned to Cairo from Israel this afternoon after attending the meetings of the autonomy negotiations committees which were held there 9-11 April.

It should be recalled that the autonomy subcommittees are the legal committee, the economic committee, the elections committee and the Palestinian autonomy powers committee.

Meantime Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada returned to Cairo from Tel Aviv this afternoon for a 1-week private visit to Egypt.

ASSISTANT ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC141000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 April--Assistant Israeli Defense Minister Gen Abraham Tamir arrived in Cairo this morning on a visit of several days to Egypt.

During the visit General Tamir will prepare for the meeting of the higher committee for normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, which will be held the last week of April.

INDONESIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT

NC142052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2042 GMT 14 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 April--An Indonesian Parliamentary delegation led by the Parliament's Secretary General (Wang Swandi) arrived in Cairo this evening for a 5-day visit during which it will hold discussions with People's Assembly members on boosting parliamentary relations between the two countries.

The delegation will also visit some tourist and archeological sites in Cairo.

FOREIGN UNDERSECRETARY LEAVES ON ASIAN TOUR

NC151210 Cairo MENA in English 1142 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, April 15 (MENA)--Foreign Under Secretary Salah Hasan left here today on a fortnight tour which will take him to five Asian countries: namely, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore.

Hasan, during his tour, will hold talks with senior officials of these countries on means of boosting Egypt's relations with them.

He will also expound the Egyptian point of view and Egypt's stance vis-a-vis the peace issue, the autonomy negotiations and international events.

TRANSPORT MINISTER LEAVES CAIRO FOR PARIS

NC151352 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1342 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 April--Transport and Communications Minister Engineer 'Ali Fahmi ad-Daghistani and an accompanying delegation left Cairo for Paris at noon today for a 1-week official visit at the invitation of the French Government.

ZAIREAN DEFENSE OFFICIAL CONCLUDES VISIT, LEAVES CAIRO

NC151401 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--Zairean Secretary of State for National Defense Gen (Isali Yoka) left Cairo this afternoon after a 12-day visit to Egypt during which he held military discussions with the chief of the general staff of the armed forces, Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi, on bolstering military cooperation between Egypt and Zaire.

The Zairean delegation also visited some of the armed forces units and formations and tourist areas. The Zairean secretary of state for national defense and his delegation were seen off by Assistant Defense Minister Maj Gen Yusuf Sabri.

MILITARY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM SOMALIA

NC151824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--The Egyptian military delegation led by Assistant Defense and Military Production Minister Maj Gen 'Abd al-Hamid Hamdi returned to Cairo this afternoon after a 1-week visit to Somalia.

During the visit the Egyptian delegation participated in celebrations last Saturday on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the National Somali Army.

PRC DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC151846 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--PRC Army Deputy Chief of Staff Liv Kai arrived in Cairo this afternoon from Somalia on a short visit. He is en route home after a 1-week visit to Somalia during which he participated in celebrations on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the National Somali Army.

ITALIAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS

NC151847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1807 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--Italian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Admiral Giovanni Torrisi arrived in Cairo this evening on a 1-week visit. He was received at the airport by Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi.

Meets Gen Badawi

NC161213 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1151 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi met today with Italian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Adm Giovanni Torrisi and the delegation accompanying him.

The meeting, which took place at the Armed Forces General HQ, was attended by high-ranking officers.

Admiral Giovanni later visited the Nasir Higher Military Academy, where he listened to a lecture on the October war.

The Italian chief of staff arrived in Cairo last night on a 7-day visit to Egypt.

U.S. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON RETURNS TO CAIRO

NC160946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton arrived in Cairo early today following a visit to Washington during which he attended President Anwar as-Sadat's talks in the United States last week.

The U.S. ambassador left Cairo on 3 April.

AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI REPORTS EXECUTION OF BAQIR AS-SADR

NC171030 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 17 (AFP)--The spiritual leader of the Shi'a Muslims in Iraq was executed a few days ago, the Arabic language weekly AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI reported here today. The weekly, considered to have close ties to the Ba'th socialist regime in Iraq, said the Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr was arrested and convicted of plotting with Iran against Iraq. AL-WATAN said the ayatollah was of Iranian descent and "known to be a sympathizer and supporter of the Khomeyni regime in Iran."

Rumours that Iraqi police had killed the ayatollah have poisoned the already tense relations between Iraq and Iran, whose inhabitants are mostly Shi'ites. The rumours have also sparked fighting in Lebanon between Lebanese Shi'ites and Lebanese and Palestinian supporters of Iraq.

IRANIAN AIRCRAFT ATTACK KORDESTAN VILLAGES

NC151325 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0730 GMT 14 Apr 80

[News item]

[Text] Last night, an emergency situation was declared in Ilam. Meanwhile, some police stations, so-called revolutionary guards' headquarters, and some government installations were attacked by armed groups. As a result of armed attacks against armed forces personnel and Khomeyni's guards, a number of them were seriously injured.

Meanwhile, yesterday Iranian military aircraft bombed 40 villages in Kordestan. Reports received state that this bombing followed clashes between Kurds and government forces. Reports also state that during these clashes the Iranian Kurds were able to take nine officers as hostages.

INA: 'PERSIAN GANG' ATTACKS IRAQI EMBASSY IN BEIRUT

JN161951 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Beirut, 16 April--A Persian organization calling itself the Amal movement carried out a series of attacks against the Iraqi Embassy and the offices of the Arab Socialist Ba-th Party and the Arab Liberation Front [ALF] in Beirut today.

The INA correspondent said that elements from the Persian organization encircled the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party office in Burj al-Barajinah today and opened fire on those inside it, killing one party member and injuring two others.

The southern suburb of the Lebanese capital witnessed fierce clashes between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party militants and elements of the Amal gang, supported by elements from Iranian intelligence. All sorts of weapons were used in these clashes.

The ALF sources say that four of its strugglers were martyred and others were wounded as a result of the racist Persian attacks against its offices.

The INA correspondent added that cautious calm prevailed in the Burj al-Barajinah region at a time when activity came to a complete standstill after the Palestinian armed struggle forces interfered to stop the clashes late this afternoon. He added that the clashes were renewed in front of the offices of the BAYRUT newspaper this afternoon, when a group from the Persian organization tried to storm these offices.

He further added that ALF elements confronted the attackers and that clashes are still going on at the time of this report. An ALF member was martyred and five others were wounded. He said that the Amal gang sent an additional group of its elements to the scene and used rockets and machineguns in their attack on the paper's offices.

In a later dispatch, the correspondent says that the Persian gang attacked the Iraqi Embassy building late this afternoon and clashed with its guards. Meanwhile, he adds, the Arab Deterrent Forces blocked the roads leading to the building.

A responsible source at the Iraqi Embassy said that the attack, in which machineguns and RPG's were used, lasted for about an hour and that the embassy guards returned the fire. The source added that the building suffered some material damage and that its windows were destroyed, but nobody was hurt.

Afterward, calm returned to the region and the Arab Deterrent Forces gained control over the situation, but the Persian gang's elements remained in the neighborhood, particularly in the Al-Awza'i region at the southern entrance to Beirut.

The Lebanese Foreign Ministry expressed its denunciation of the attack against the Iraqi Embassy. Ambassador Henri Abu Fadil contacted Iraq's Charge d'Affaires in Beirut Nizar an-Naqib on the telephone and conveyed to him the foreign minister's condemnation and denunciation of this heinous attack.

IRANIAN AUTHORITIES EXECUTE 4 ARABS IN KHUZESTAN

JN171733 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Arabistan--The authorities of the racist Persian regime carried out the death sentence against four Arab citizens of Arabistan [Khuzestan] today. The four Arabs were held responsible for a number of incidents in the recent wave of explosions in protest against the racist policy of the Iranian regime, which is intentionally ignoring the legitimate rights of the different Iranian nationalities.

During this wave of resistance against the racist Persians, a group of Arab youths of Arabistan planted an explosive charge on 8 April in a warehouse for flammable materials in Khorramshahr. The explosion caused a huge fire, which raged for several hours.

A second explosive charge went off under the Khorramshahr-Ahvaz train, derailing the train and causing heavy damage to its cars, and a third explosive charge went off in a glassware store in Khorramshahr, smashing glass and causing a huge fire in the store.

AL-MUSTAQBAL DISCUSSE KHUZESTAN'S INDEPENDENCE FROM IRAN

JN181041 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, 18 April--Accurate reports have affirmed that the Province of Arabistan in Iran will witness an overwhelming revolt against the racist Khomeyni regime. In its edition, which will be issued tomorrow, the magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL says that the revolt will separate the province from Iran and make it an independent Arab state again. Quoting reports dispatched to it, the magazine adds that several Arab states support this trend.

It is known that the Arabistan Province includes more than 5 million Arabs and is considered the richest region in Iran, since most of the oilfields are found there.

ATH-THAWRAH CRITICIZES IRANIAN REGIME

JN181059 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 18 April--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH reiterates that the tumultuous campaign and the organized provocations being launched by the racist Persian clique in Iran against Iraq and the Arab nation cannot be dissociated from the principal trends aimed at implementing the significant links of the imperialist-Zionist plan in the Arab homeland and surrounding area.

In its editorial, the paper says that the Persian rulers have unveiled their blatant, expansionist and aggressive designs. The veils that cover their ugly faces are no longer capable of concealing the role that has been assigned them. It is the same role the shah, with all his war machinery and with U.S. help, failed to implement.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The game of preoccupying Iraq, the attempt to diminish its role, influential, and qualitative weight in the pan-Arab arena, the attempt to weaken its relentless and active struggle on the level of the nonaligned movement and world struggle against the imperialist and aggressive forces and the attempt to annihilate its free will and its principled and independent course have all been exposed, as well as those manipulating the strings of this game.

ATH-THAWRAH explains that every time Iraq moves to shoulder the burdens of its pan-Arab responsibilities and to polarize the struggling formulas that would enable the Arab nation to achieve an advanced state, the hostile forces rush to motivate their traditional tools and reservist forces--which are ready for emergency cases--to implement some aspects and important links of the game of preoccupying Iraq.

The paper asserts that this is what the new Persian rulers are trying to implement now under the pretext of fake slogans and deceptive veils seeking the help, as in the past, of all the rancorous and elitist forces whose principal objective is to be hostile to Iraq and the Arab nation and to serve the foreign will.

The paper asks: In whose interest, therefore, are these Persian rulers sowing hatred against Iraq and the Arabs? Can anyone with minimum objectiveness, partiality and principles believe the Persian rulers' allegations that the road of their enmity toward U.S. imperialism should pass through Iraq's front and through their enmity toward the Arabs?

ATH-THAWRAH says that Iraq's noble and revolutionary course and its principled and tenacious stand sincerely and faithfully express the Arab nations' rights and interests and the real cohesion with the Arab nation's free and independent will, which is above all other wills.

The paper asserts that the 17 July revolution, its historic and wise leadership and its noble revolutionary course have rendered Iraq strong and solid and always capable of scoring a decisive victory over all challenges and under difficult circumstances.

ATH-THAWRAH warns that the enemies' instigations, maneuvers, deceptive attempts and aggressive policy are doomed to failure.

ATH-THAWRAH recalls President Saddam Husayn's speech in Nineveh Province when he said: "It is not a bad thing to avoid confrontation with Iran unless this confrontation is a national and pan-Arab duty. When this confrontation is a national and pan-Arab duty, we will wage it in all ways."

MILLIYET INTERVIEWS GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ON IRAN RELATIONS

NC170740 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 14 Apr 80 p 10

[Exclusive interview granted by Iraqi Government spokesman Hasan Talbah to MILLIYET correspondent Emin Colasan in Baghdad--date not given]

[Excerpts] For the first time, the Iraqi Government spokesman has stated to MILLIYET the Iraqi Government's views and comments on the recent developments between his country and Iran. Spokesman Hasan Talbah said this proved the friendly and brotherly relations existing between Turkey and Iraq. This is what Hasan Talbah said in the first part of his statement: "You have seen for yourself that life is normal both in Baghdad and in other parts of Iraq. We do not have the panic that they have in Iran. However, we do not want to talk too much. The Iranians are trying to revert to their old propaganda method, which is based on too much talk, thinking that this method can be effective. Qotbzadeh is reported to have said: "We are going to topple the Iraqi regime." This gentleman is in fact making fun of both his regime and his people. The Iranian Government can deceive nobody but itself. We are strong as an army, as a party, as a people and as a nation. We have no intense desire for war; but we will fight when we must. Iran alleges that we want war. Our people are not scared of war. No serious clashes have occurred between us and Iran. The world press has been exaggerating these clashes. However, the Khomeyni regime is engaged in constant provocation against my country. In recent days we have discovered certain groups operating in Iraq on behalf of the Hizb ad-Da'wah Party, which receives its orders from Khomeyni. The Iraqi communists, too, have been collaborating with these groups. They will all be given the punishment they deserve. These are very ugly and mean methods.

Question: What is the position on your borders with Iran at this moment?

Answer: As far as we are concerned, the war has not yet started. Border clashes are a different matter.

Question: Will war begin?

Answer: We are always ready for war, but we do not wish to fight; nevertheless, we have to be ready for war in order to counter Iran's racist policies. This country has overstepped its bounds. It refuses to withdraw from our islands which were occupied during the shah's time.

Question: Is Iran engaged in racism?

Answer: Certainly. All races living in Iran are being oppressed. Iran's economy and collapsed. Its foreign policy is obscure. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others. The houses of the Iranians are made of glass. Let them take care of their houses. We are not vainglorious. We only depend on ourselves. Vainglory procues evil results. We handle our problems and our affairs with care and wisdom.

Question: Are these clashes the outcome of Iran's provocations?

Answer: These clashes frequently take place. The real cause is the people of the Arabistan region in Iran. Moreover, Iran often sends groups to Iraq. We recently caught them. They had money, arms and explosives in their possession. Incidents are provoked by Iran.

Question: Is the Khomeyni regime inciting the Shi'ites against the Iraqi Government?

Answer: Khomeyni incites the Iranians living in Iraq. They have ties with Iran. These provocations stem not from religious fanaticism but from Iran's racism. Iran considers Arab nationalism as bad as Zionism. They keep telling the Iraqis they expel from Iran: "We like the Zionists more than we like you." This confirms Khomeyni's racist notions. The Arabs support Iraq because Khomeyni has betrayed all the Arabs. Iraq is part and parcel of the Arab world. Iraq's enemy is also the enemy of the entire Arab world.

Question: Does President as-Sadat of Egypt support Iraq in this matter?

Answer: The Anwar as-Sadat regime in Egypt is exhausted and it is doomed to extinction. His regime may oppose Iran but for different reasons.

Question: What do you think will be the end of Khomeyni?

Answer: Time will tell. These people are far from serious. We are not like them. A duel of words does no good to anybody. Khomeyni's aim is to stop the course of history and turn it back. His actions are contrary to the spirit of Islam. He claims to be on the side of Islam, but he subjects people of his own nation to racism, tyranny and oppression. He has executed innumerable people. The Iranian courts have sentenced at least one thousand people to death. No one knows the number of people killed without trial. The end of this situation will not be different from that of the shah's regime. The end will be determined by the Iranian people.

Question: What do you expect of Turkey in the event of a war between you and Iran?

Answer: Naturally, Iraq does not expect open support from Turkey. We would only hope that our good neighborly relations will continue.

Question: Do you think that there can be peace between the two countries so long as Khomeyni is in power?

Answer: It is not the personalities but the views that count. If Iran changes its views, there is no problem. We can then establish true relations.

Question: What will happen if Iran refuses to withdraw from the islands in the Gulf?

Answer: Let me make it quite clear that we cannot give up even an inch of Arab territory. We have sacrificed thousands of lives for these lands. You saw yourself the bloodshed that the Iranian agents caused last week at the Al-Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad. These occasions afford us the opportunity to produce heroes. This is a test for our men. In a war with Iran, Iraq will not be alone. States of the Gulf, Jordan and the Palestinian organizations are all on our side. Khomeyni can no longer deceive the Arabs.

Question: In a war like this, is it likely that any Arab state would side with Khomeyni?

Answer: We have not heard of such a thing so far. Some Arab states have maintained silence so far. This situation will get clearer later on.

Question: What do you think about the American hostages in Tehran?

Answer: This is a matter entirely between Iran and the United States. It does not concern us.

Question: What would Iraq's attitude be in the event of the United States imposing itself more on the Middle East?

Answer: We will definitely fight the United States if it approaches our shores. They have more than one reason for coming to this area.

On the other hand, the Iraqi Government has refrained so far from issuing a statement on the border clashes with Iran. Neither the Iraqi television, the radio nor the press have said a word about it. The press, however, carries criticisms of the present regime in Iran. According to reports in the Iraqi newspapers, the Arabs living in the Arabistan region of Iran are fighting against the Iranian administration. They are reported to be carrying out various acts of sabotage and militancy.

CUBA'S GONZALEZ MEETS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS 15-17 APR

Planning Minister

JN151145 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 April--Iraqi Planning Minister Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah met here today with Humberto Perez Gonzalez, Cuban vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister-president of the Central Planning Board. During the meeting, they reviewed development plans and economic activities in Iraq and Cuba and discussed the expansion of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic field.

Trade, Housing Minister

JN161515 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 16 April--RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali met today with Humberto Perez Gonzalez, Cuban vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister-president of the Central Planning Board, and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, a review was made of bilateral economic and trade relations and of the efforts to follow up on implementation of the bilateral joint trade plan.

Housing and Public Works Minister Muhammad Fadil Husayn also met with Humberto Perez Gonzalez. During their meeting, which was attended by the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad, ways of bolstering cooperative relations between Iraq and Cuba in housing and construction projects were discussed.

Deputy Premier

JN171421 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 17 April--RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan met here today with Humberto Perez Gonzalez, Cuban vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister president of the Central Planning Board, and his accompanying delegation. Discussions at the meeting dealt with ways of promoting bilateral relations and with the exchange of planning expertise. The meeting was attended by the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

ATHENS PAPER INTERVIEWS INDUSTRY MINISTER AT-TAWFIQ

For an Athens I VRADHINI interview with Minister of Industry and Minerals Tahir at-Tawfiq on Greek-Iraq relations and the Iranian situation, see the Greece section of the 16 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

AMMAN RADIO CALLS ON IRAQ, IRAN TO SETTLE DISPUTE

JN121853 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] News reports continue to talk about the escalation of differences between the two neighbors, Iraq and Iran, at a time when the entire region is still the target of big power ambitions and naval fleets which are roving the seas near the Iraqi and Iranian coasts.

The escalation of differences between the two fraternal Islamic countries at a time when our nation is facing the great Zionist challenge is in itself a diversion of the Arab and Islamic force's aims and an exhaustion of this force in side battles that benefit only the Zionist enemy and the foreign powers that have greed for the wealth of the Arabs and the Muslims.

The fabricated dispute between Iraq and Iran makes it incumbent upon us as Arabs and Muslims to adopt a sound stand which guards us against falling into schemes that are aimed at dispersing our forces and efforts so as to distract us from confronting the common foe that is occupying the Arab and Islamic lands and holy places.

Iraq has prominent status among the Arab confrontation states and we do not accept that it be impaired or exposed to any danger because it embodies the pan-Arab depth of these states and constitutes a main pillar of support and backing for the basic confrontation forces in the face of the danger of the Zionist aggression that is perching on occupied Arab territory.

As for Iran, we considered it and will continue to consider it a supporter of our position that is sharing with us our struggle against the Zionist aggression. The Arabs' concern for the safety of the Iranian situation is no less than their concern for the safety of the situation in Iraq and in the Arab world. Hence, we consider that the differences existing between Baghdad and Tehran are not fundamental and must be settled by taking into account our Arab and Islamic interests and by appealing to a logic permeated by the spirit of fraternity, amity and tolerance so that Arab and Islamic blood will not be squandered as the victim of differences fabricated by quarters hostile to the Arab and Islamic existence.

The echoes of the Iraqi-Iranian differences on our situation in the face of the Zionist foe negatively and seriously influence our steadfastness capabilities. It follows that the dispute between Baghdad and Tehran does not achieve the Arab and Islamic states' interests but only the aims of the hostile schemes which want to disrupt the close Arab-Islamic relations and strike at the Arab and Islamic societies and ignite them from inside.

We extend a sincere call to our brothers in Iraq and Iran to take into account the supreme pan-Arab and Islamic interests in dealing with the accidental differences in order-to remove them or sidestep them for the sake of preserving the two fraternal peoples' blood and safeguarding the soundness of the Arab and Muslim stand in the face of the Zionist aggression that is aimed against the Arab and Muslim states.

AR-RA'Y COMMENTS ON IRAQI-IRANIAN CRISIS

JN130850 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Apr 80 pp 1,13

[Editorial: "A Call to Baghdad and Tehran"]

[Text] The Iraqi-Iranian crisis had gone beyond reciprocal media campaigns and entered the stage of border skirmishes between the two neighbors. This has created a sense of regret and concern on the Arab and Muslim levels.

This crisis and its developments no doubt increase the dangers threatening Arabs and Muslims in uselessly wasting their forces and efforts at a time when they should concentrate them on facing the main confrontation, as represented by the fierce Zionist onslaught that is usurping Arab territories and desecrating everything holy.

It is necessary to say that fraternal Iraq is a cornerstone of the Arab nation and a strong supporter of the issue to which Iraq has given and is giving all its political, economic and military energies. Therefore, any aggression against it or any threat against its security is a blow aimed at the issue of Arabs and Muslims, and thus against them.

On the other hand, we say that Arabs and Muslims have respected the Islamic Republic of Iran and recognized it because of their belief that Iran's domestic affairs belong to the Iranian people. They also expressed more than once their opposition to any foreign intervention in Iran or threat to its security in the hope that stability will be reached so that Iran can become a strong supporter of their position in Palestine.

From this basis, it is difficult for the Arab and the Muslim to imagine for a moment that Arab-Muslim forces could fight when they should stand in solidarity or that the hope will change into disaster threatening their force.

Judging by all national and Islamic criteria, the Iraqi-Iranian crisis is not to the advantage of either country, nor is it to the advantage of the entire Gulf region.

It is worth maintaining fraternal Iraq's force, since it serves the Arab and Muslim issue. As for Iran, it should concentrate its efforts, now more than ever, toward its own stability and to support the Arab and Muslim issue in Palestine. Any conflict between them will open the doors to foreign intervention in the Gulf area, an opportunity that ambitious powers, antagonistic to Iraq, Iran and the issue, have been waiting for.

From the national and Islamic bases, we strongly call on Baghdad and Tehran to end this crisis for the sake of millions of Arabs and Muslims, for the sake of their issue and so that Israel will not realize its hope of weakening the Iraqi and Iranian forces.

Hopefully, a joint Arab League-Islamic Conference delegation can visit the two countries and resolve the crisis.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR SAQAFI TO BE TRANSFERRED

JN141113 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] AD-DUSTUR has learned that the Iranian Government has decided to transfer its ambassador in Amman, Hamzeh Akhavan Saqafi, to another post in the Iranian Foreign Ministry. Mr Saqafi was appointed as Iranian ambassador to Jordan 6 months ago.

AL-MAJALLAH: KING HUSAYN TO VISIT PRC, DPRK

LD161319 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 12-18 Apr 80 p 6

[Text] According to Amman sources, King Husayn will visit PRC and North Korea during the next few weeks in response to an official invitation from the governments of the two countries. The Jordanian monarch's visit to the two communist countries will be "important" on both the political and military levels. As for his visit to Washington, King Husayn has not yet decided whether to make the visit in June or to postpone it to a later date.

ISRAELI FORCES STAGE ATTACK 18 APRIL

NC180620 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] At 0200 today, an Israeli force launched an attack on the areas of As-Sarafand and 'Adlun, landed troops in the two areas and blew up some houses. According to reports available, some persons were killed and wounded during the Israeli aggression. Some bodies are still under the debris.

According to security reports, the Israeli enemy resumed its attack on the area at 0400 today, bombarding it from the sea. Our correspondent in Sidon reports that an invading Israeli force advanced toward the coast near As-Sarafand. They used military boats, which anchored at the shore near an orchard. The force faced stiff resistance from various types of weapons. Our correspondent adds that Israeli helicopters backed up the force during its withdrawal at 0330 [as heard]. The clash resulted in several dead and wounded on both sides. Traces of blood were seen on the sandy beach where the Israeli gunboats landed.

The Israeli military spokesman admitted the operation this morning, saying that an Israeli force attacked As-Sarafand and blew up a fedayeen base. The spokesman claimed that 6 persons were killed and that 2 members of the attacking Israeli force were wounded.

An-Nabatiyah area and its surroundings were subjected to artillery shelling from the southern border during the night. No casualties have been reported so far.

Further Report

NC180850 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Some sources report that 12 persons were killed and 1 was wounded during the Israeli attack on the As-Sarafand base this morning. It is feared that more dead and wounded are under the debris of the houses which were destroyed. It has been reported that after withdrawing to the high sea opposite As-Sarafand between the cities of Sidon and Tyre, the Israeli boats began bombarding the houses from a distance.

Killed were Abu 'Ali az-Zayn, Kamil 'Umayrah, Abu Shakir ash-Shibl, Abu Yasir, al-Wild Muhammad, Hasan Abu 'Inad, Ahmad 'Abduh, Abu Nidal Jihad, Abu ' Abduh, Ratib Abu ar-Ra'id, Usamah Sa'di and Abdallah Abu Zayd.

A Dr Samir was wounded and is in a grave condition. All reporters have been banned from entering the area.

IRANIAN CHARGE HIT IN HAND DURING SHOOTING INCIDENT

NC172030 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] This afternoon, armed men fired at the car of the Iranian charge d'affairs, (Jawad Mardazali), hitting him in his right hand. His aide and the embassy accountant were also hit--the wounds of the latter are serious.

AMAL MOVEMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON FIGHTING WITH ALF

NC161828 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Our correspondent has just reported that an Amal spokesman said: 14 Iraqis were in the AL-MUHARRIR newspaper offices. Then, five were killed and nine others were taken prisoner. The building was completely burned. The Amal movement has set up roadblocks around the newspaper building. In Ash-Shiyah the Amal movement took control of the Arab Liberation Front [ALF] center in Ash-Shiyah. The statement said that an Amal member, Ghalib [name indistinct], and three ALF members were killed. The statement did not mention their names.

In Burj al-Barajinah the statement said that Amal took control of two Ba'thist offices in this suburb and took 11 people hostage. A prominent Iraqi official was killed and 10 Iraqi Ba'thists were injured.

The statement says that three attacks were made on the Amal Movement's Hospital near the Iraqi Embassy. Several people were killed, but the statement did not give their names. The statement concludes that the Syrian Army--or rather the deterrent army--has begun moves to separate the combatants.

POPULAR FRONT LEADER REPORTEDLY CAPTURED BY AMAL

NC171001 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0915 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] It was reported that the Amal Movement has captured a leader of the Popular Front, known as Abu Mahir. The front warned that it expects his release by midday today.

Security measures are now being adopted around the Iranian Embassy hwere the charge d'affaires held a press conference to explain the situation following yesterday's shelling of the embassy.

At 0900 today, a shell fell in the Az-Zahra' Hospital area, wounding three children.

A state of alert continued in the southern suburb of Beirut because of sniper fire from Shatila Circle. Many gunmen appeared in some parts of the suburb, particularly at the access to Al-Murayjah. Contacts have been resumed to avoid a recurrence of yesterday's incidents.

SARKIS RECEIVES FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER MARCHAIS

NC161321 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] At 0930, President Ilyas Sarkis received the secretary general of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, who was accompanied by Political Bureau member and secretary of the party's Central Committee, Maxime Gremetz, and a member of the foreign relations department of the party's Central Committee, Alain (Greche).

After the 75-minute meeting, Mr Marchais said: We thanked the president for his reception and his long discussion with us. We can say that, at the same time, we discussed the current situation in Lebanon and, in general terms, the problems of this part of the world. It is only natural that the solution of the Palestinian problem should take up a considerable proportion of our time. I would like to say that the proposals made by President Sarkis last March merit being termed, in our opinion, a political approach.

Marchais added that, as far as the Palestinian problem is concerned, President Sarkis' proposals are on a par with our own proposals. He went on to say: Obviously we discussed Lebanese-French cooperation. We are convinced that, despite the special relations that bind France and Lebanon, France can play a more vital and active role in view of France's standing in the world. This role can be represented by French attempts to help find a solution to the major problems inherent in giving the Palestinian people a sovereign state on their own territory--which might, in a way, represent the key toward solving the Lebanese problem. At the same time, it would be wise to carry out effective measures that would allow this country to march forward prior to the ultimate solution of the major problem.

ALGERIA

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES ALGIERS 16 APR

LD161420 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] The Cuban minister of foreign relations, Isodoro Malmierca left Algiers this morning at the end of an official visit to Algeria within the framework of a tour to a number of countries with the aim of finding a solution to the present situation in Southwest Asia. The Cuban minister was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, to whom he handed a message from President Fidel Castro.

MAURITANIAN ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE TO BENDJEDID

LD151103 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 9 Apr 80 p 1

[APS report: "Audience Granted by President of the Republic"]

[Text] Algiers--Yesterday morning, President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, received Mr Ould el-Houssein Ahmed Mahmoud, minister adviser to president and Mauritanian President Ould Haydala's special envoy, at the presidential headquarters.

The Mauritanian emissary conveyed a message from the Mauritanian head of state to President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mr Abdelmalek Benhabylles, Central Committee member and secretary general to the presidency, was present at the audience.

MOROCCO

MARINES SEIZE 21 SPANISH FISHING BOATS

LD161330 Rabat MAP in English 1223 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Rabat, Apr 16 (MAP)--The Royal Marines hailed on April 10, 1980 twenty-one Spanish boats which were caught in the act of fishing in Moroccan waters between Tanger (northern Morocco) and Kenitra (40 km to the north of Rabat), announced Tuesday a communique from the Moroccan Ministry of Trade and Industry, Merchant Marine, and Fisheries. "The authorities noticed that these boats were violating Moroccan regulations regarding fishing as well as the terms of the Moroccan-Spanish agreement.

"The Spanish boats were trawling within the 12-mile interdicted zone, were using prohibited nets and fishing tackle, were catching immature fish, and did not have a fishing license. "These boats were led to the Casablanca port where the measures foreseen by the regulations will be taken against them," concluded the communique.

BOUABID: LIBYA ENDANGERS ARAB, AFRICAN STABILITY

LD171342 Rabat MAP in English 1237 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Rabat, Apr 17 (MAP)--Mr. Maata Bouabid, Moroccan premier and justice minister stated that the Libyan regime constitutes a danger not only for the stability of Morocco but also for the Arab world and Africa.

In an interview with the Arab weekly AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, published in Paris, the Moroccan premier underlined the fact that "no one ignores the worldwide interference of Al-Qadhdhafi and his suspected relations with terrorist and separatist movements".

In this interview, the Moroccan premier sketched the broad lines of the Moroccan policy on the international scene, the role of Morocco in the liberation of Al-Quds and its efforts for the Palestinian people's recovery of their legitimate rights.

Asked if the events witnessed in Afghanistan push the nonaligned movement to consider the Soviet Union as "a natural ally", or lead them to reconsider their stand, Mr. Bouabid said that "the philosophy of nonalignment as laid down by the founders, such as Tito and Nehru, centers on the idea of equidistance vis-a-vis the two blocs in order to preserve national independence of developing countries and to launch an interstate cooperation free from all ideological strings". "What happened, and what will happen in Afghanistan bears a great significance, and I hope that the nonaligned states that advocate the idea of 'a natural ally' would draw the necessary conclusions", he added.

On the influence of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's policy on the stability of the Maghreb, Mr. Bouabid stated that "the Libyan regime is a genuine danger for the whole of the Arab world and for Africa. More than this, no one ignores its inopportune interferences in the Arab world and its relations with the different separatist and terrorist movements".

Speaking about this influence in the Maghreb, Mr. Bouabid said "Tunisia, Mauritania and Morocco were obliged to face the same Libyan subversive outbursts aiming at harming the stability of Morocco in particular". "I want to emphasize once more the destructive and criminal role played by Al-Qadhdhafi who supplies the mercenaries hired by Algiers with sophisticated weapons that many African regular armies lack."

Asked if the Sahara issue will keep the forefront of the Moroccan foreign policy, Mr. Bouabid asserted that "the preservation of the Moroccan territorial integrity is the top priority both on the internal and the external levels".

On any possible solution of the Sahara issue, and on the idea of a conference gathering countries bordering on the Sahara, Mr. Bouabid said "it is out of the question that we (Morocco) negotiate and hold talks with individuals that represent only themselves. The "POLISARIO" enjoys no international legal existence. In any case, we will not follow Algeria in its forward escape. "Anyone who faces reality will realize that the tension prevailing in northwest Africa and the aggressions suffered by Morocco constitute in their form and substance a conflict opposing Morocco and Algeria backed by Libyan petrodollars and mercenaries from various origins," he emphasized.

The outcome of the conflict, Mr. Bouabid stated that [as received] Morocco will be someday obliged to meet its neighbors to settle this bilateral conflict. "We are ready to open dialog in order to work out a solution, but also to strengthen co-operation with countries bordering on the Sahara, in various fields", he pointed out precising that such cooperation will be politically and economically fruitful if free from strings and interference in states' internal affairs."

Asked about the fate of the people at Tindouf in case negotiations connect, Mr. Bouabid said that "the term refugees should be precised. The people gathered at Tindouf are either mercenaries or families dragged off their homes under arms and enticed by lies".

"Once the Sahara conflict is solved," added Mr. Bouabid "the Tindouf sequestrated families can come back home but the mercenaries will have to seek another master." I point out, he said, King Hassan II stated on many occasions that he pardons the Moroccan citizens who are victims of the Algerian propaganda. Thus, they can come back home whenever they wish."

Tackling the Mideast issue and the French stand, the Moroccan prime minister said that "Morocco has adopted a clear-cut stand as we consider that the Palestinian cause is the core of this complex problem. And as long as Israel goes on violating the sacred rights of the Palestinian people, mainly that of setting up an independent state, it is impossible to solve the conflict".

"I am convinced that France and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, are willing and they are able, to play a constructive role in seeking a solution to the Middle East crisis", concluded Mr Bouabid.

SUDAN

LIBYAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY MAKES STOPOVER

JN181112 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Khartoum, 18 April--Libyan Secretary for Foreign Affairs 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki made a stopover here yesterday en route to Zimbabwe to participate in its independence celebrations. The Libyan secretary for foreign affairs was received and seen off at the airport by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, vice president and minister of foreign affairs and assistant to the president for coordination.

CHADIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FROM OUEDDEI

JN171856 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Khartoum, April 17 (SUNA)--A Chadian delegation arrived here last night to communicate a message from President Goukouni Oueddei, to President Numayri of Sudan. The message covers issues relating to the current situation in Chad.

TUNISIA

PETROCHEMICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH KUWAIT

LD151043 Tunis L'ACTION in French 28 Mar 80 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Signing of Two Cooperation Agreements"]

[Text] A ceremony was held at the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy yesterday evening at which Tunisian Industry, Mines and Energy Minister Amor Rourou and Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali al-Kalifah as-Sabah signed an outline cooperation agreement between the two countries and a convention relating to the Kuwaiti Petrochemical Industries company's capital investment in the Tunisian Maghreb Chemical Industries Company [ICM]. The signing ceremony was attended by ICM Managing Director Ali Boukharis, Kuwaiti Petrochemical Industries Chairman 'Abd al-Baqi Nuri, Tunisian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohamed Meqdiche and Kuwaiti Ambassador in Tunis Mizran Ahmad al-Hamad.

On this occasion Mr Amor Rourou delivered a speech in which he welcomed the signing of the outline agreement between Tunisia and Kuwait and pointed out that this agreement embodies the two countries' desire to step up bilateral cooperation and consolidate fraternal relations between the two peoples.

"The importance of this outline agreement is highlighted by the simultaneous signing of a convention which relates to capital investment by the Kuwaiti Petrochemical Industries company in ICM."

Speaking in turn Ali Kalifah as-Sabah thanked Mr Rourou for his speech on topics relating to his and the Kuwaiti Government's view of cooperation between the two countries.

The Kuwait minister stressed that the two governments are trying to build firm foundations for their countries' economies, pointing out that cooperation between the two countries in the investment and development sphere is long-standing and that the outline agreement just signed constitutes a new stage in strengthening cooperation between Tunisia and Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti minister specified that the capital investment agreement signed between the ICM and the Kuwaiti petrochemicals company is extremely important. He called on petrochemicals experts in the two countries to identify new projects which the two countries could carry out to strengthen their cooperation still further.

The Kuwaiti minister said that his visit to Tunisia had enabled him to assess the attitudes and competence of Tunisian technicians. This enabled him, he said, to be optimistic about the future of economic cooperation between the two countries.

'ARAFAT MEETS BOURGUIBA DEPARTS 15 APR

LD160826 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] The great struggler President Habib Bourguiba received at 1945 last night at the White Hall in the Republic Palace in Carthage Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. 'Arafat was accompanied by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department and Abu Salih, member of the Fatah Central Committee.

The meeting took place in the presence of Mohamed Mzali, minister of national education and in charge of coordination of the government's work at the president's office; Hassen Belkhodja, minister of foreign affairs; Driss Guiga minister of the interior; Mohamed Sayah, party director and minister-delegate attached to the prime minister; and Hasan Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunis.

Following this, the president invited Yasir 'Arafat and the personalities who attended the meeting to have dinner with him.

Yasir 'Arafat left Tunis yesterday. He stated that he discussed with His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba a number of subjects concerning the Palestinian question, the Arab nation and the Arab stance vis-a-vis the colonial Zionist challenges. The conversation also dealt with all that concerns the unity and solidarity of the Arab stance vis-a-vis the enemies of the Arab nation.

Yasir 'Arafat said that he found in his excellency the president full understanding and full support (?in Tunisia's past stance) of backing the Palestinian question [words indistinct].

WESTERN SAHARA

FOREIGN MINISTER HAILS STEADFASTNESS SUMMIT

LD171651 Algiers APS in English 1604 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] S.A.D.R. (Liberated Territories), 17/04/80, (APS)--"The Saharan people hail the just and courageous decision taken by the Steadfastness Front", the Saharan foreign minister, Brahim Hakim declared, following the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) recognition by the summit of the Steadfastness Front held recently in Tripoli.

He added that "the Arab nationalist's response, through the Steadfastness Front, to the doubtful alliance of Morocco's king, who defends imperialist goals in North Africa, and to As-Sadat, who does the same in the Middle East, is the commitment to carry on the struggle for the liberation of Palestine". "It also means a support for Arab peoples struggling for their liberation, among whom are the Saharan people".

Mr Hakim said "this recognition is considered by the Saharans as a call on Rabat to put an end to its war against the Saharan people, to launch negotiations with S.A.D.R's government". "Thus, Mr Hakim concluded, Saharans and Moroccans could join their efforts for the liberation of Palestine and the occupied Arab territories."

SAHARAN FORCES SHELL MOROCCAN POSITIONS 12-13 APR

LD171410 Algiers APS in French 1100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Liberated Territories (SADR), 17/4/80, APS--A communique released by the Information Ministry of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] says that on 12 and 13 April 1980 the Saharan Popular Liberation Army (SPLA) intensely shelled the garrisons of enemy troops in Aouinet El Hafa and Mziriga, in southern Morocco. This action, which was part of the Houari Boumediene offensive, the communique says, caused substantial losses of life and equipment to the enemy in occupied areas of the SDAR and to the south of Qued Draa, notably in Smara and Bir Enzaran.

BEGIN BRIEFS JOURNALISTS IN WASHINGTON ON TALKS

TA171536 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Let us go over to Washington where Begin's briefing for journalists ended a few minutes ago. Rafi Man is on the telephone from the United States.

[Man] The prime minister makes it clear that the conclusions reached in the talks about the continuing committee do not include a decision on transferring issues from the autonomy talks for discussion in this committee. This is how Mr Begin explained the conclusions on this matter.

[Begin Begin recording] It is not a standing [matmedet] committee, as it is called. It is a continuing [last word in English] committee and should be translated as a mitmashekhet [the Hebrew equivalent for continuing] committee. All this is specified in the Camp David accords. It should be set up after the administrative council is established during the 5-year transitional period. We have, indeed, concluded that during the transitional period, namely after the administrative council is set up and starts operating, then the continuing committee will have its turn. We have given it the power of dealing with some additional problems such as developing water sources for general welfare and economic cooperation. We have also invited the U.S. representation to take part. This is all we have decided upon. This is not a current issue now since the administrative council should first be elected and become operational. Only then will the turn of the continuing committee come. [end recording]

[Man] The prime minister states that he submitted to President Carter a new Israeli document containing four points and summing up, according to Begin, the Israeli position regarding the nature of autonomy and the security arrangements. The prime minister refused to divulge more details on the contents of the document, but emphasizes it does not contain changes from the well-known Israeli position. The talks between Mr Begin on the one hand, and Mr Carter and his advisers on the other, also dwelt on the situation in southern Lebanon. The Americans asked Mr Begin to use Israel's influence with Major Haddad. And indeed, the prime minister telephoned the U.S. National Security Adviser Brzezinski, informing him that Israel has succeeded in convincing Major Haddad to remove the roadblocks set up on roads in southern Lebanon and open them for UNIFIL soldiers.

Further Details

TA171903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Intensive autonomy talks between Israel and Egypt are to begin before the end of this month at the Israeli resort of Herzliyya. This was announced in a communique issued at the end of the Washington discussions between Prime Minister Begin and President Carter. The communique also contains a restatement by the United States of Washington's commitment to Israeli security and welfare and to the achievement of a just peace between Israel and its neighbors.

In Washington, Prime Minister Begin briefed Israeli correspondents. Among them was our reporter Shim'on Ayalon. [Begin Ayalon recording]

Before leaving Mr Begin gave a brief news conference for Israel reporters; and one of the first questions, of course, was to ask for his reaction to the remarks made by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman on the Moqed television show last night when Mr Weizman indicated that he would favor early elections and would not object to standing for the head of the Likud Party or even serving as defense minister under a Labor government. The prime minister would not react. He said he would reserve any comment if he would give any at all until he returned to Israel and had a chance to read first-hand a transcript of Mr Weizman's remarks. He would not be drawn into any comment on this issue. He has spoken to the defense minister twice during the past 24 hours on the subject of Lebanon, an issue worrying the American administration. Prime Minister Begin said the issue of Mr Weizman's remarks had been discussed in the telephone conversations. Begin said he still regards Weizman as a friend, indeed, a close friend, but no comment for the time being.

The Americans are worried about what is happening in southern Lebanon, about the actions of the leader of the southern Lebanese militias Major Haddad in closing areas under his control to United Nations troops. Just a few hours ago the prime minister assured the Americans, in a telephone call from Brzezinski, head of the National Security Council, that by 6 pm Israel time Major Haddad had agreed to take down his roadblocks. We have always had problems with Haddad, Begin said, he has got his own ideas about what should be done and he does not always listen to Israel's advice, especially where the Irish units are concerned. There seems to be some bad chemistry between the Irish and the southern Lebanese militia.

As for the autonomy talks themselves, the suggestion for 40 days of intensive negotiations having been accepted, no attempt has been made to shove tough issues to one side while performing [as heard] a continuing committee as has been suggested by the American press. Rather, it would be according to the Camp David treaty.

The issue of Jerusalem was one important issue where Israel and Washington do not agree. In fact, during these past days there have been a number of what Mr Begin termed serious disagreements, even arguments, over the future of the city and its inhabitants. The prime minister laid down Israel's viewpoint on this and a number of other issues in a four-point document which was handed to President Carter, a document which states Israel's stand, yet which is not a final position, at least as far as the diplomatic language is concerned. It was not an ultimatum, Mr Begin stressed, but simply a condensed position paper. The issue of Gaza first, whether or not that region would go ahead to autonomy and serve as a model for the rest of the territories, was never seriously discussed. This could only happen, the premier stressed after there had been an overall agreement and not before. Mr Begin is convinced there can be a practical solution to the autonomy talks stalemate without the need for a trilateral summit involving himself, President Carter and President as-Sadat.

Summing up the past 3 days Mr Begin said that some smaller problems had been solved, but that the main issues were still disputed. This is Shim'on Ayalon at the White House. [end recording]

BEGIN MAKES STATEMENT ON RETURN FROM WASHINGTON

TA181055 Tel Aviv Radio in Hebrew 0915 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin's statement on arrival at Ben-Gurion airport--live]

[Summary] Prime Minister Begin opened by thanking the members of his entourage for their help during his visit to Washington. He then said that, in his estimation, "the most important achievement of the visit was the renewal of the unity of the U.S. leadership in their support for Israel, its policy and its government." He talked about Jewish support for Israel, on every point including the principles that autonomy "will, under no circumstances, be allowed to turn into a Palestinian state," which will be insured by the West Bank remaining in Israeli hands, and that the autonomy council will be purely administrative. U.S. Jews are prepared "not only to insist on this, but also to fight for it."

On the political deliberations, he described the meetings he held with President Carter and those with his aides. He said he cannot go into details on the contents of the paper he submitted to the U.S. administration, other than to say that it "includes the most important points" and all discussions will be held on this basis. He denied all the Israeli press predictions of confrontation with the United States or of Egyptian-U.S. coordination, saying: "We do not know of any agreements between Egypt and the United States at this stage of the deliberations." On the contrary, Begin praised the atmosphere of the talks and the frankness shown by the Americans.

Referring to the problem of Jerusalem, he pointed out that Jerusalem is not a topic for discussion, since Israel will never agree to partition and the Americans understand this completely. "There will only be one and one sovereignty alone in Jerusalem, and it will be that of Israel; this is what we informed President Carter." He noted that "Jerusalem does not appear in the Camp David agreements" and autonomy does not apply to it. He then explained why he thinks that the Egyptians can accept this approach, saying that although both the Muslims and the Christians have sacred places there and he respects them, free approach will be preserved and there will be no Israeli intervention in their administration; but they are not the most important problems for these faiths, while Jerusalem "is part of the Jewish nation's history." He added that President Carter also told him that he felt that Jerusalem should remain unpartitioned.

On the problem of the administrative council, Begin recalled the Egyptian demands, but said that accepting these demands would mean "a Palestinian state in all but the name, and we are not playing with names, since it is a question of our lives and those of our children." There can only be an administrative council, not any form of parliament.

On security, he reaffirmed that only Israel can be responsible for security in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; otherwise Israel "will become a second Lebanon in a far more grave edition. There will be unceasing bloodshed and not only will people be killed, peace will be murdered." If the Egyptians accept this, there will be deliberations with the Egyptians and Americans on arrangements, such as cooperation with the local police force, but with the "precondition that the Egyptians first announce that they accept this principle" of security remaining in Israeli hands.

Begin mentioned the discussions on the continuing committee and noted the mistranslation of the word continuing. He said that there was U.S. version of this point, but it was the Israeli version that was accepted during his visit. The point in dispute was whether the continuing committee should be "strengthened by U.S. participation," a version Israel does not accept, or whether "the United States will be asked to take part in the deliberations." This Israel accepts, although it is not to be regarded as a precedent. The Camp David agreements must be adhered to strictly.

Begin concluded by praising the good atmosphere throughout the talks and referring to the draft of a joint communique to be issued. He said that he was insulted by not having been consulted before the draft was prepared and informed Mr Brown that he could not agree to the last sentence, about talks in Washington, explaining his reasons. President Carter told him he had no objections to the talks being held in Egypt and Israel and this was agreed upon. He gave the dates of the talks in Herzliyya and Alexandria and pointed out that 26 May was not a "target date" but a "goal." Begin said he hopes that an agreement will be reached before this date; but if not, the negotiations will continue until an agreement is achieved. Finally, he expressed his best wishes for the success of the negotiating teams so that "we and the Arabs who are inhabitants of Eretz Yisra'el will be able to live together in one country, an undivided one, with human, mutual respect, without anyone harming anyone else. In this way the conditions of peace and understanding will be created, which we have wanted to create ever since we became Zionists in our early youth. We hope for the best."

DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN U.S., ISRAEL REPORTED

TA172015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Our correspondent in Washington Shalom Qital says that differences of opinion have developed between the U.S. administration and the Israeli delegation on the question of the continuing committee that will deal with daily life of the Palestinians such as water, land and settlement problems. While U.S. officials say that Mr Begin accepted the proposal to set up such a committee after the parties reach an agreement on the autonomy plan, the prime minister said this committee would not be significant since, in his opinion, its task is to deal with Jewish-Arab cooperation on the water question and not to distribute the rights. [as heard]

U.S. officials told correspondents today that Carter and Begin agreed on several procedural questions of the autonomy negotiations as well as agreeing to call on the Jordan's and the Palestinians' representatives to join the talks.

BEGIN TALKS WITH WEIZMAN ON SITUATION IN S. LEBANON

TA171611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The prime minister talked with Minister Weizman on the telephone today, but Weizman's remarks in Moqed last night were not raised in their talk. The defense minister informed the prime minister that the commander of the Christian militias in southern Lebanon agrees to open the regional traffic arteries to the UNIFIL soldiers at the Americans' request.

The prime minister told our correspondent Shalom Qital that tomorrow, after his return, he will scrutinize Minister Weizman's remarks and will react to them if he finds it is necessary. On his talks in Washington he said he handed the Americans a document containing Israel's position on four issues concerning the autonomy talks. Our correspondent reports these are existing Israeli positions. The prime minister will soon speak before the leaders of U.S. Jewry. He will later leave for Israel.

BEGIN: TALKS TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL OR EGYPT

TA171756 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin interviewed by Shalom Qital in Washington at the end of Begin's talks--recorded]

[Text] [Begin] All the excitement in Israel before our arrival here as well as in the U.S. press, as though the Americans and the Egyptians, during As-Sadat's visit here, reached an agreement which would be brought to our attention--an agreement which I would be required to agree to and sign under pressures and threats--proved to be unfounded. This is baseless. The argument was completely free. We brought a proposal of our own. Discussion was held about it. The Americans raised a proposal and their proposal was also discussed. We achieved certain important agreements, not decisive ones, but important. An agreement should now be reached on the proposals the Americans and Israelis agree on. The Americans expect Egypt's agreement.

The real negotiations on all points will now start either in Egypt or in Israel, not in Washington. We posed this to the United States first for consent and the idea was then presented to the Egyptians for approval. Before I arrived I received the draft of the joint Carter-As-Sadat statement. There was a sentence there where I was asked to agree from the very beginning that the talks be held in Washington. I announced: You can release your statement in your names, not in my name. I said I did not give my agreement to this issue, that there would be a Cabinet meeting on Sunday where I would raise the issue and bring my answer to you in Washington accordingly. This is how things happened.

The government decided that the talks should be held in the Middle East: in Egypt and Israel and not in Washington. This is not because we do not like Washington--this is a very nice city and the U.S. hospitality is excellent--but this would have made the negotiations very difficult. One should remember that delegations are in question and that they occasionally try to talk with their governments. It is very difficult to do so in Washington.

[Question] On substantive issues--I understand that an Israeli document was submitted. What does it contain?

[Answer] Important things.

[Question] But perhaps you could give the details.

[Answer] I cannot do so since talks have to be held with the Egyptians. They should first give an answer, which we are awaiting.

[Question] What issues does the document deal with?

[Answer] Important issues: the nature of the autonomy, security and others.

[Question] There was an argument between you and President Carter on the Jerusalem question. Could you elaborate, please?

[Answer] There was an indeed an argument. To elaborate, there is no need for this really. A proposal was submitted that the Arab residents of Jerusalem should be able to vote for the autonomous administrative council of the Arab residents of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. This proposal is not new. It was already suggested to us in Jerusalem. I explained our position regarding Jerusalem. Jerusalem is entirely under Israeli sovereignty, it is our capital and is not subject to partition. This proposal meant partition in practice even if one stated ten times and more that Jerusalem remain undivided.

Two aspects were involved: The Israeli state and the autonomy. Jerusalem has no connection with the autonomous plan. Regarding the autonomy one should remember that the military government has to be cancelled. There is no military government in Jerusalem. There is no connection between the two. It is our one and unified capital. We will now allow, not even very indirectly, that it be redivided. Today, I also explained Jerusalem's history. It is not only a questionof religion. This is an important matter in itself--we grant free access to members of all faiths to the holy places and this did not exist during the Jordanian occupation. This is known and I explained this. However, Jerusalem is part of our long history lasting over 3,000 years. This is the soul of the people. I gave many examples to President Carter. He understood that on this issue our position is clear and firm and we will not change it in the future either. By the way, as I wrote to him in my letter in Camp David--Jerusalem is not mentioned in the Camp David [agreements].

[Question] Settlements have been discussed here, before you arrived and in the course of your visit as well. The United States, both the administration and the public, reject the settlements.

[Answer] Well, I was at Congress yesterday and met with dozens of members of both houses. There was only one question on the settlements--a well-phrased question--which I answered. This issue was not raised again. This was the briefest and best discussion about this problem in Congress that I have known in recent years. Regarding the sessions held in the White House--this matter was not raised at all.

TERRORISTS SHELL SOUTH LEBANESE MILITIA

TA172108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] This evening the terrorists in southern Lebanon aimed artillery fire at the villages of the Christian enclave. The terorrists opened fire from their positions in the Beaufort Fortress, but the militias did not return the fire. Our correspondent reports that an alert was declared in the enclave villages. It was feared that the terrorists would indulge in provocations on the occasion of the anniversary of the declaration of free Lebanon.

IDF Attacks Terrorist Base

TA180541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] During the night an IDF force invaded a terrorist base in the area of the village of As-Sarafand on the southern coast of Lebanon.

The IDF spokesman announced that during the action at least six terrorists were killed. Our personnel blew up two buildings. The force has two slightly injured people. The camp attacked during the night served the terrorist organizations as a training base and a point of departure for strikes against Israel.

Further Details

TA180545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Now to the IDF force invasion: six terrorists killed; two of our people slightly wounded; two buildings blown up; all this in the terrorist camp near As-Sarafand village. Here is our military correspondent Roni Daniyel.

[Daniyel] The terrorist base attacked is in (Ra's as-Shaykh), about 20 km north of Tyre, between the Lebanese coastal road and the sea. It is a large base covering a broad area and serves primarily as a logistic [word indistinct] for the supply of arms. There are also command posts for the terrorist organizations there.

The terrorist base in (Ra's as-Shaykh) is in the center of what is called the Litani small triangle. There are between 1,500-2,000 terrorists in this area. The Fatah organizations, the Palestinian Liberation Army, As-Sa'iqah and (Jibril). The Fatah mechanized battalion is also deployed there, which has armored personnel carriers and halftracks.

The force that invaded the terrorist bases succeeded in surprising those in it and, according to the commanders, at least six terrorists were killed. Because of the surprise, the terrorists offered little resistance, just a few bursts of fire at the assault force. Senior security elements are not describing this action as a reaction to what happened in Misgav 'Am, but the last IDF action against terrorist bases in the coastal strip, where they are training and deploying, was about 10 months ago, and this represents the cessation of activity recalled by the commander of the southern command. Following Misgav 'Am, perhaps the initiative, which is so essential, is now also being renewed against the terrorist bases.

HADDAD PREVENTS UNIFIL FROM MOVING FREELY IN S. LEBANON

TA161547 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Texts] UNIFIL commanders in southern Lebanon are now trying to persuade Christian militia commander Major Haddad to permit the UNIFIL soldiers to enter the southern Lebanon enclaves. Ever since the bloody incidents in the village of At-Tiri, in which villagers were killed by shots fired by Irish unit soldiers, Haddad has prevented the UN forces from moving throughout southern Lebanon. Our correspondent Menahem Horowitz has telephoned this report from the north:

[Begin Horowitz recording] Dozens of UNIFIL soldiers have stayed in Metulla and near the northern border crossing points for 4 days, since the commanders of the Christian militia have not allowed the soldiers to enter into their bases in southern Lebanon. I would like to protect the lives of the southern Lebanon villagers and therefore I will not allow UNIFIL forces to pass through areas under my control, Christian militia commander Maj Sa'd Haddad said this morning to a group of UN officers whom he met in Metulla.

The militia soldiers have also been preventing the passage of vehicles carrying supplies and medication to UN bases in southern Lebanon. It has been reported that this morning Haddad allowed vital supplies to cross over to some UN positions, in certain special cases. In the meantime, high tension has been reported, mainly among the 600 members of the Irish UNIFIL battalion, in light of the bloody incidents that took place at the beginning of the week in the village of At-Tiri, in the central enclave in southern Lebanon, in which two villagers and a militia soldier were killed by Irish soldiers' fire. The victims' families have announced that in return they would kill every Irish UNIFIL soldier they meet. The UN spokesman in southern Lebanon is continuously denying reports that tension prevails between UNIFIL soldiers and southern Lebanon villagers. He claims that the villagers had asked the United Nations to guard them from the militia soldiers.

The commander of the militias, Major Haddad, and UNIFIL commanders have been holding a meeting since noon in An-Naqurah, in an attempt to persuade the militia to allow UNIFIL to move around in southern Lebanon. [end recording]

At-Tiri Shelled

TA171809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The militiamen in southern Lebanon shelled the village of At-Tiri and demanded that the residents drive out the Irish UNIFIL soldiers in the village. The commander of the militia forces, Major Haddad, granted the villagers 24 hours to drive out the UNIFIL soldiers, threatening to continue the shelling if the Irish soldiers are not removed.

UN Spokesman's Comments

TA171934 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] A UN spokesman has alleged that south Lebanese militia forced UN observers from an observation post on the Israeli--Lebanon border, driving them to UN headquarters on the Mediterranean coast. (Samiev Sanbar) also claimed the militias threatened the Lebanese border village of At-Tiri with bombardment, and, the UN spokesman said, 100 residents of the town fled. He said the militias' head Major Haddad had told UN troops to be out of the village by today.

High Alert Declared

TA180623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] A state of high alert has been declared in the villages in the southern Lebanon enclave. The militia commanders say that the terrorists have recently concentrated forces and arms in preparation for a large attack just at this time, when the south [of Lebanon] is marking a year since the declaration of free Lebanon. Militia commander Major Haddad has ordered studies stopped and all his personnel have been put on alert.

CARTER INVITES PERES FOR POLITICAL TALKS

TA172022 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The U.S. President has invited the chairman of the Labor Party, Mr Shim'on Peres, for political talks in Washington Thursday, 24 April. This was learned by our correspondent for party affairs. Shim'on Peres will fly to the United States next Monday for a 10-day visit and in the course of the visit he will meet with President Carter.

Our correspondent Nisim Mish'al in our Tel Aviv studio brings more details.

[Mish'al] We had better make it clear right at the beginning: A meeting between the U.S. President and the opposition leader is an extraordinary phenomenon in the United States' diplomatic relations with other countries. The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, too, had difficulty pointing to a similar case where an opposition leader was invited for talks with the U.S. President. Therefore, the expected meeting should be considered more important than a merely polite talk between the two personalities. The man who is responsible for coordination and who also transmitted President Carter's invitation to Shim'on Peres was Israel's ambassador in the United States, Efrayim 'Evron. Initially, the meeting was supposed to be held about a month ago, but due to President as-Sadat's and Prime Minister Begin's invitation to Washington, the meeting was put off; and only yesterday Ambassador 'Evron informed Shim'on Peres of the new date, 26 April.

The contacts to bring Shim'on Peres and President Carter together have lasted for several months. Some explain that the White House's decision to invite Peres is connected with the rise of the Labor Party's power as reflected in the public opinion polls and with the possibility that Peres will be Israel's next prime minister.

What will the two talk about? Well, the head of the Labor Party is going to present his party's position on the autonomy issue. He will point out the possibility of applying it to the Gaza Strip first. He will also raise the possibility of including Jordan in the negotiations; as well as the Labor Party's objection to negotiations with the PLO and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The timing chosen by President Carter for this invitation--following his talks with the prime minister--raises quite a few questions. However, the central question is whether President Carter told Prime Minister Begin about the expected meeting with the opposition leader. It is impossible to give a clear answer to this question.

[Announcer] Our political correspondent says the Foreign Ministry knows nothing about the meeting expected to take place between President Carter and Mr Peres next week. Our correspondent has been told that Israel's Washington-based ambassador did not report this meeting and did not ask for his superiors' permission to arrange it.

Embassy Denies Involvement

TA180652 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Shalom Qital reporting from Washington on Begin-Carter talks--read by announcer]

[Excerpt] There is a new issue: The meeting expected next Thursday between President Carter and opposition leader Mr Shim'on Peres. The very fact of the meeting should certainly not have aroused differences of opinion. President Carter has met not only with heads of state, but also with public figures from various countries who are not government members, but whose public status entitles them to a meeting with the President. For example, among President Carter's guests recently there was James Callaghan, the former British prime minister who is in the opposition today, and Moshe Dayan.

But the reports arriving from Israel saying that Ambassador 'Evron organized the invitation without the knowledge of the Foreign Ministry. It is these reports that have raised questions for the ambassador. The Washington [Israeli] Embassy's reaction is: We did not initiate, nor did we organize the visit.

On Wednesday we received an announcement from the White House, they say in the embassy, an announcement that Mr Peres had been invited for a meeting with the President, and the embassy's treatment was limited to this. That was the reaction of the embassy in Washington.

Cyrus Vance told Prime Minister Begin, while accompanying him to Andrews Air Force Base, about the invitation to Peres. As for the initiative for the meeting, there are conflicting reports here. A U.S. source claimed that the initiative came from Mr Perez, through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. According to another report, the invitation came from the White House, when they learned about Peres' visit for a series of lectures in the United States. A day after the Weizman affair, along came this affair, and a senior U.S. journalist complained to me: How does Israel manage to be in the headlines every day?

REACTION TO WEIZMAN'S EARLY ELECTION REMARKS REPORTED

TA170639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Our correspondent on party affairs Amnon Nadav says that the defense minister's statement that he is in favor of early elections surprised the heads of his party and, in fact, all the political circles, personalities in the Likud were impressed by the opposition-type strength of the remarks. In Herut some people foresee the possibility that 'Ezer Weizman will resign, either of his own free will or as a result of decisions by his party's council.

The opposition factions reacted by welcoming Weizman's remarks. They believe that the chances for early elections have improved. The alignment says that as soon as the Knesset recess is over, it will present a proposal for early elections.

The Likud heads attacked 'Ezer Weizman for his remarks and expressed decisive opposition to early elections.

Hayim Kaufman, the chairman of the Herut faction, said that Weizman presented himself as a professional minister prepared to serve different masters. Herut movement Secretariat member Dov Shilansky said: Herut is a voluntary movement and does not keep any of its members by force.

Secretary of the democratic movement--which is a partner in the coalition--Yisra'el Granit, said that the defense minister's remarks will have a decisive affect on the position of the movement's council, which will discuss the continuation of its partnership in the coalition at the end of the month. In fact, the secretary of the democratic movement said, the defense minister expressed a lack of confidence in the government in which he is serving.

Opposition leader Shim'on Peres described Weizman's remarks as courageous and patriotic. In Peres' view, a majority is being created in the Knesset in favor or early elections.

MK Amnon Rubinstein--Shay movement--said that the defense minister's remarks will weaken the government even further.

WORLD TRADE UNION CONFERENCE ADOPTS DECLARATION ON S. AFRICA

LD1715Z2 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The International Trade Union Conference in solidarity with the workers of southern Africa concluded its 3-day deliberations in Addis Ababa by adopting a declaration, a message of thanks to the revolutionary government and people of Ethiopia and a message of congratulations to the government and people of the newly independent Zimbabwe.

In its declaration yesterday afternoon, the conference called on all workers and their trade union organizations throughout the world to give full moral and material support to the National Union of Namibian Workers and to the South African Congress of Trade Unions. The trade unions were called upon by the conference to demand that the governments who still maintain relations with the regime in South Africa stop financial investment in South Africa and isolate the regime in all international organizations. The conference also called on workers and their trade union organizations to totally refrain from giving any services to ships and planes going to or coming from South Africa, to demand the immediate withdrawal of all racist forces illegally occupying Namibia and to condemn vigorously all acts of aggression and expansionism by racist South Africa against its neighboring states.

The conference was closed by the minister of labor and social affairs of socialist Ethiopia, Comrade Kassa Kebede.

Earlier yesterday, the delegation members of the international trade union conference in solidarity with the workers of South Africa visited the Ethiopian Airlines and were later briefed on the national literacy campaign and the overall urban dwellers associations at the auditorium of the post graduate school and the municipality hall respectively.

KENYA

ATTORNEY GENERAL NJONJO ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

LD181016 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 18 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Kenya's attorney general, Mr Charles Njonjo, who has also been the acting minister for information and broadcasting, has announced his own voluntary decision to leave his top post in the civic service on reaching retirement age. Mr Njonjo has also announced his candidature for the Kikuyu constituency seat, which fell vacant as a result of the resignation of the Ara member of Parliament, Mr Amos Nganga, who was also an assistant minister for transport and communications.

SEYCHELLES

PRESIDENT RENE WARNS OF MILITARIZATION OF INDIAN OCEAN

AB180725 Paris AFP in English 0413 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Victoria, Seychelles, 18 Apr (AFP)--Seychellois President Albert Rene warned Thursday about the dangers of escalating militarisation of the Indian Ocean by nonregional powers.

Addressing an ACP-EEC East African conference on regional co-operation here, President Rene warned the delegates that in the event of a confrontation between the foreign military powers in the Indian Ocean, the countries of that region must be prepared to face the prospect of once again becoming occupied countries.

Recalling that the Seychelles had made it clear it would never grant facilities for the establishment of foreign military bases on its territory, he said his government had taken steps to discourage further expansion of foreign military arsenals in the area. These measures included a severe cut in the number of visits by foreign warships or military aircraft and the establishment of annual quotas for such visits. President Rene [words indistinct] conscious effort had to be made to improve communication between the countries in the region, which have to consider each other as partners in development.

He said they must learn to know each other better and to counter the effect of centuries of colonial rule on relations between them. The emphasis on a North-South relationship must lead to closer relations between them, he said. The four-day conference is to discuss regional cooperation and development projects in the fields of fishing, transport, telecommunications, education and training. Under the Lome convention, some 600 million units of account have been allotted to regional cooperation. All ACP countries of the eastern Africa and Indian Ocean region are attending the conference, while the European Economic Community and several other international and regional organizations dealing with economic development are also represented.

SOMALIA

COMMERCE MINISTER MOHAMAD LEAVES FOR PRC

LD171853 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 17 Apr 80 EA

[Excerpt] Somali Democratic Republic Minister for Commerce Challe Ahmad Mohamad Mahmud left left Mogadishu for the PRC this afternoon. Challe Ahmad Mohamed Mahmud's visit comes at the invitation of the PRC Commerce Ministry.

Speaking to reporters at the airport, the minister said he was carrying a written message from Challe Mohamed Said Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, to Challe Hua Guofeng, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party. He said he will discuss with Chinese leaders ways to strengthen trade and economic relations between the two countries.

TANZANIA

S. AFRICAN PAC ISSUES STATEMENT ON 'ACTION PROGRAM'

LD171542 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 17 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] of Tanzania has pledged to initiate a program of action to liberate South Africa from apartheid.

A statement released by the PAC office in Dar es Salaam yesterday said the party's Central Committee, which met recently to review the geopolitical situation in southern Africa, resolved to carry out positive action toward liberating South Africans from the clutches of imperialism and racism. The statement added that with the attainment of independence in Zimbabwe, the South African regime was in a state of panic and hence this was the best time for liberation forces to capitalize on the situation.

The PAC Central Committee appointed Ndugu (Count Pieterson) director of education and manpower development and (Ngila Mwendane) was elevated to the Central Committee.

UGANDA

RULING COUNCIL APPROVES ELECTIONS UNDER UNLF AUSPICES

LD172006 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Apr 80 EA

[Text] The National Consultative Council has approved a National Executive Committee proposal that presidential, parliamentary and district council elections be held under the umbrella of the UNLF [Uganda National Liberation Front], provided that all legally-qualified Ugandans are allowed to stand.

The proposal was approved after accepting an amendment presented by Mr (Lawrence Ssebalu) that elections should be held under the umbrella of the UNLF provided that political parties and individuals are free to participate in their own names if they wish.

The amendment was defeated by 50 votes against 28 in favor and one abstention.

President Binaisa took part in the voting, which was held in a tense atmosphere.

Some cabinet ministers voted in favour of the amendment.

Summing up, Mr (Ssebalu) warned the house against the dangers which have resulted from the violations of constitutions since Uganda became independent in 1962.

ZAIRE

POLITICAL BUREAU EXAMINES MOBUTU'S TOUR, STUDENT UNREST

AB171637 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1105 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 16 Apr (AZAP)--The agenda of the ordinary meeting of the Political Bureau, which was held today under the chairmanship of Guide Mobutu Sese Seko, included (?two) topics: the [guide's] trip to some European and Asian countries, and the internal situation in Zaire.

On the first topic, the MPR founding-president talked about his important conference in Brussels. This conference was the statement of our right to be different, as the permanent secretary, Citizen Mpinga Kasenda, said.

The father of the nation gave detailed information on his official visit to Romania, where he was granted a hearty welcome and where he reviewed and updated or revived earlier cooperation accords.

Guide Mobutu also talked at length about his visit to China, where he widened the framework of cultural and military cooperation, apart from renewing the previous agreements.

In India, he had fruitful talks with Mrs Indira Gandhi on current international issues and on the world situation. With Mr Arap Moi, his Kenyan counterpart, the head of state took stock of the relations between Zaire and Kenya with a view to promoting a more (?active) cooperation.

On the second item of the agenda, the Political Bureau heard a detailed report by the first state commissioner on developments in both primary and secondary schools as well as in higher schools and the university. The primary and secondary school teachers, in conjunction with their trade union, worked out satisfactory solutions to their various demands presented to the Executive Council, which will endeavor to implement the agreements reached, the permanent secretary of the Political Bureau said.

Concerning the situation on the university campus and in certain higher institutions of the capital, Guide Mobutu explained to his collaborators the reasons why he gave an ultimatum to the students concerned, summoning them to resume attendance at lectures, otherwise the campus and the insubordinate higher institutions will be shut down.

GUINEA

PRESIDENT TOURE ADDRESSES ECOWAS SYMPOSIUM

AB170925 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Address by Guinean President Sekou Toure to the second symposium of the Economic Community of West African States on economic integration held in Conakry on 15 April--recorded]

[Excerpts] Mr secretary general of the OAU, Mr Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS], Mr Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, comrade members of the Central Committee and the government, your excellencies the ambassadors, delegates, research workers and professors of universities of the ECOWAS member countries from Africa, Europe and America, ladies and gentlemen: It is our duty to ask you to kindly join us to observe a minute's silence in memory of the late chairman of the OAU and president of the republic of Liberia, our brother and friend, William Richard Tolbert, Jr. Thank you.

Dear ladies, gentlemen and delegates and comrade cadres of the African democratic revolution: You are meeting here to discuss problems of the economic integration within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States. Your conference is taking place at a particularly exciting moment in the struggle for the total liberation of the oppressed peoples. It will therefore analyze and assess the progress made in order to determine the best ways and means of achieving the integration.

Delegates, the economic integration of the ECOWAS states remains the indispensable solution for the development problems of our subregion in its struggle against underdevelopment and for true economic progress. All of us are now convinced that economic integration is one of the essential conditions and one of the dynamic factors which can enable our young states to free themselves from economic dependence, to develop themselves and to make rapid and sure progress toward the economic independence desired by our peoples. Right from the onset, I would like to ask you to guard against superficial visions of economic integration as practised in certain continents. We must understand that the achievement of our noble ambition is obstructed by the hard and sad realities of the colonial past, which does not allow us to act as our own masters. In fact, our respective economies are dependent on certain industrialized countries which deal with us as partners and masters. It is, therefore, necessary for us to organize a struggle to reconquer the reins of our countries' economies. Economic integration should enable us to harmonize and coordinate our economic activities in all sectors; it would thus enable us to eliminate the regional disparities in economic development. It will particularly enable us to make up for our tardiness in exercising our sense of responsibility and to insure our dignity as free peoples. Economic integration will thus constitute a stinging riposte to the imperialist powers which are still endeavoring to perpetuate our division in order to prolong their harmful influence on our young economies.

We must, therefore, struggle. We repeat that this struggle demands the conscious, total and resolute participation of all the peoples of our respective nations and of all the social classes. In this connection, our universities have a great role to play as active centers of reflection and of theoretical and practical studies. [Words indistinct] there are different forms of integration, the examination of which will improve our knowledge of the problems of the economic development of our states. You will discuss these very carefully and in a responsible way. However, during your deliberations and throughout the duration of your symposium, you should never forget to give priority to the objective interests of our peoples.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the leading cadres of the inter-African and international organizations for their material contributions and the deserving efforts they made to insure the holding of this symposium which the revolutionary Guinean people are very happy and honored to host. They are the African Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa, the West African Economic Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Mano River Union, the European Economic Community, the United Nations Development Program, the OAU, the UNESCO and so on. We are grateful to the authorities of the African European and American institutions and universities who are here with their rich contributions to the symposium.

We Guineans are convinced that it is through economic integration that we will successfully and correctly achieve our material, economic, scientific and technical development, the other peoples of our subregion should have the same conviction. This is because none of the states of the ECOWAS--however immense the material and human resources at its disposal--can overcome its undevelopment in a reasonably short time without the economic integration of our subregion. We have always insisted on the need for African unity. This stand is not at all the (?result) of a utopian and romantic vision of Africa's future; on the contrary, it is based on a realism that is both human and economic.

It is sad to note that our countries are still mere exporters of raw materials and mere markets for the products manufactured by the developed countries. We must admit that we are in fact integrated to the consumer society set up by these countries. We seem to accept our fate--a fate of dependence in an economic atmosphere that is foreign to us and which perpetuates our own incapacitation. And yet, everybody has been talking about the inequality of the terms of trade; everybody has been talking of the transfer of technology and everybody has been talking about Africa's immense potentialities. It is not time for our universities to replace these problems in a purely African context [words indistinct]? The history of the African continent deserves to be reviewed by our brave youth in order to distinguish what we have been, what we are today and what we want to become. The youth, who constitute Africa's future, have the imperative duty to reflect, to think and to bring our ideas and objectives within reach of the understanding of the African peoples. We must therefore try to banish all practices that do not reflect our own realities [words indistinct].

You will also have to examine monetary, financial and banking problems. As far as we are concerned, we believe that the 11 monetary zones of the ECOWAS member states are excessive and constitute factors that paralyze the economic development of each of the 16 countries in our subregion. On this special occasion, you must also study our monetary problems in detail. As far as the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea is concerned and regardless of whatever people may say about the syli, this national currency constitutes a sign of identification of the Guinean nation; it therefore has cardinal virtues and constitutes for the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea a currency that is absolutely independent. However, as we said in the past, our people are prepared to abandon their national currency for any African currency [words indistinct]. [applause]

You will also have to study the ways and means of developing among our people technologies adapted to our present realities. This problem of transfer, exchange and development of technologies [words indistinct] is of capital importance because our independence depends on it. And as long as we cannot find a correct solution to this problem, we will remain dominated and exploited. It was thanks to their science, technique and technology that the imperialist powers colonized, dominated, exploited and oppressed us. And it is by acquiring the same science, technique and technology that we can save ourselves from this exploitation.

LIBERIA

FORMER MINISTER, OFFICIALS SEEK ASYLUM IN GHANA

AB171520 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1500 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Officials of the ousted governmentof Mr William Tolbert who traveled to Ghana with the national team, the Lone Stars, are said to have asked for political asylum from the Government of Ghana. They include the former minister of labor, youth and sports, Mr Estrada Bernard, and other officials of the Ministry of Labor, youth and sports.

MINISTER SAYS GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO PRESS FREEDOM

AB171856 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of information of the People's Redemption Council, Gabriel (Numeni), has told the news media in Liberia that the new government is committed to the maintenance of freedom of the press in the true sense of the word.

In his first meeting today with editors of the various news agencies in Liberia, Minister (Numeni) said the People's Redemption Council under the chairmanship of Master Sgt Samuel K. Doe, was not interested in false praise but objective and factual reports. Minister (Numeni) delcared: You should (?tell) the truth and nothing but the truth, adding: Only remember that you are responsible for what you report. The information minister, who further warned against speculative reporting based on rumors, noted that [words indistinct] whatever may constitute the news story.

FOUR MEN EXECUTED FOR 'SUBVERSION', LOOTING

AB172140 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Three soldiers and a civilian have been executed by firing squad for looting and engaging in subversive activities. Our correspondent was on the scene and here is his report:

The execution took place this afternoon at the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia. Speaking shortly before the execution of the four men, the head of state, Master Sgt Samuel K. Doe, said the execution was to serve as an example to both civilians and soldiers who are not to engage in activities not in line with the objectives of the revolution. Master Sergeant Doe said the objective of the coup was to get rid of corruption in the society and warned that anybody caught engaging in activities contrary to this would be dealt with accordingly.

Those executed were Charles Miles, Henry Dennis, (Emmanuel Manty) and Charles Philmore. Charles Miles was executed for killing a soldier at Camp Jackson in Bong County, while Henry Dennis and (Emmanuel Manty) were executed for killing another soldier in front of the Holiday Inn building on (Kerry) Street in Monrovia. Charles Philmore was executed for impersonating a soldier. Well dressed and armed with an automatic weapon, he was also charged with looting.

Earlier this afternoon, thehead of state, Master Sgt Samuel K. Doe inspected government and private vehicles which were damaged during last Saturday's coup. He also visited a residence near the Barclay Training Center where he and his colleagues planned the military takeover last Saturday.

DOE DENIES REPORTED DISSOLUTION OF SECURITY SERVICE

AB172154 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Master Sgt Samuel Doe, chairman of the People's Redemption Council and head of state, has refuted a NEW LIBERIAN newspaper report that all security agencies of the Republic of Liberia, with the exception of the Bureau of Immigration and National Aviation and the police, had been dissolved. Refuting the report, head of State Samuel Doe said he was not in knowledge of such reports, nor has he directed any officials or state administrators to dissolve the special security service. He said members of the special security service were presently working side by side with the military and conducting their research with responsibility. Master Sergeant Doe emphatically said that in the cause of the people, the special security service does exist and will continue to exist until otherwise directed.

In its Thursday, April 17 issue, the NEW LIBERIAN newspaper stated that with the exception of the Bureau of Immigration and National Aviation, and the national police, all security agencies of the Republic of Liberia, including the special security service, had been dissolved.

MONROVIA REPORTS DAY'S PROCEEDINGS OF MILITARY TRIBUNAL

AB172340 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Excerpts] The trial of the former government officials entered its second day today, and our man was there and filed this report:

[Begin recording] The trial started at 1030 this morning with the former president (?pro tem) of the Liberian Senate and brother of the late President Tolbert, Mr Frank Emmanuel Tolbert, taking the stand before the military tribunal.

Mr Frank Tolbert, who pleaded not guilty to the charge of high treason, admitted that there had been rampant corruption by the former government. Asked as to whether the corruption in the last administration had in fact necessitated the recent coup, Mr Tolbert answered, and I quote: Yes, such is the line in such [word indistinct] conditions. Mr Tolbert agreed that the previous government had monopolized the Liberian political process to the exclusion of the masses of the Liberian people. Mr Frank Tolbert, who has worked for the Liberian Government for over 50 years now, said he has three bank accounts in the International Trust Company of Liberia, totaling over half a million dollars, just about $651,000. Mr Tolbert said he owned seven blocks and seven houses. Three of the houses, according to him, are let by the government. [end recording]

The former speaker of the House of Representatives, Richard Henries, also faced the military tribunal today. He described the former government as corrupt and nepotic. Our correspondent has the details:

[Begin recording] The former speaker of the House of Representative, Richard A. Henries, was the second to appear before the tribunal this afternoon. He also pleaded not guilty to the charge of high treason. Mr Henries expressed congratulations to Head of State Doe for having taken over the government of the country.

The 72-year-old Henries said, and I quote: Nepotism and corruption had become rampant, and every day the previous government was talking about corruption and nepotism, while corruption, he said, was starting from the very head. He added, and I quote: For every little office, some relative of the president was there. He would advise him to give it to somebody else, and when he moved, he said, something else had happened. Citing some instances of corruption by the late President Tolbert, Mr Henries said that when the late chaplain general of the army died, the president put in [name indistinct], his cousin, who already had a job, while another clergyman who was recommended was disregarded by Mr Tolbert. Mr Henries said: The only way corruption could have been blotted out from Liberian society was by the coming into power of a new government. This is why, he said, I congratulate Master Sgt Doe for ousting the Tolbert government.

Mr Henries said he knew Mr Tolbert since 1944 but was never close to him because, unlike Mr Tubman, he said, Mr Tolbert was not an open man. He said, and I quote: Whenever you tried to reason with Mr Tolbert, he became nervous and thought you wanted to run his government.

The former speaker of the house said he owned four small cars and eight houses. He also claimed to have a $30,000 account in the TRADEVCO [Liberian Trading and Development Bank Ltd] Bank of Liberia. Mr Henries said he also has about $50,000 in the First National City Bank and the Chase Manhattan Bank, both of New York in the United States. According to Mr Henries, he received a monthly income of over $9,000 besides his government salary. [end recording]

Also tried today was former Chief Justice J.A. Pierre. Once again we join our man at the Barclay Training Center for that report:

[Begin recording] Mr Pierre, who pleaded not guilty to the charge of high treason, said he has worked with the government for 28 years. When asked about the $100,000 he allegedly received from the (Hart) brothers to foil their controversial (Bunbury) case, Mr Pierre denied receiving any money in connection with the (Bunbury) case or any other case. Mr Pierre said he owned one lot and one house in Monrovia, and has a checking account of over $600 with the Chase Manhattan Bank of Monrovia.

The military tribunal, headed by Lieutenant Colonel (Peckiney), also began hearing evidence on the former minister of foreign affairs, Cecil Dennis. Yesterday the former justice minister, Joseph Chesson, and the national chairman of the True Whig Party, Reginald Townsend, faced the tribunal. The trial is expected to continue tomorrow. [end recording]

SOLDIERS IN GRAND BASSA REQUESTED TO REPORT

AB180725 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0615 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Special announcement]

[Text] All soldiers assigned to plantations and industrial areas in Grand Bassa County are to report to their various areas of assignment for muster and proper assignment. Anyone failing to comply with the above order will be carried as AWOL. Signed: Thomas (Coa), commander in charge, muster detachment.

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS TO REPORT TO INFORMATION MINISTRY

AB180800 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0745 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Special Announcement]

[Text] All foreign journalists arriving in the country to cover the current state of affairs are asked to report at the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism and Broadcasting for proper accreditation.

Foreign journalists are also informed that all press activities including the filing of Telex messages will be coordinated through the Ministry of Information. Signed: Alhaji (Kuma), assistant minister for information and agreed by Minister Gabriel (Nimley).

RETURN OF GOVERNMENT VEHICLES REQUESTED

AB180810 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0615 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Special announcement]

[Text] All persons using government vehicles without authorization are requested to immediately return these vehicles to the appropriate government agencies. Anyone who fails to comply with this order will face the necessary disciplinary measures. In the cause of the people, the struggle continues. Signed: Gabriel Nimley, minister of information, cultural affairs and tourism.

DOE URGES CLOSE CHECK OF ARRIVING PLANES FOR ARMS

AB180945 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Master Sergeant Doe visited the (James Sprigg) airfield center today and told airport officials to search strictly all airplanes coming in and out of the country for ammunition. He also ordered that passengers' luggage be carefully checked so that no arms come or go out of the country.

A.B. TOLBERT REPORTED STILL AT LARGE

AB181005 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Twenty [word indistinct] fishermen arrested and detained yesterday [words indistinct] were today ordered released by the commanding general, Thomas (Thompson). The 20 fishermen were arrested for allegedly assisting former representative A.B. Tolbert in his attempt to escape from the country. Commanding General (Thompson) told the Liberian News Agency that investigations into the alleged act by the fishermen show that they had no knowledge about Mr A.B. Tolbert's leaving the country.

Meanwhile, a special squad of the armed forces has been dispatched to the [word indistinct] for the immediate arrest of Mr A.B. Tolbert who is said to be in hiding there.

MALI

TRAORE COMMENTS ON RESULTS OF VISIT TO KUWAIT, FRANCE

AB171741 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The president of the republic, Gen Moussa Traore, returned to Bamako last night from a trip to Kuwait and France, which he made with President Senghor of Senegal and the Mauritanian minister of equipment and public works, Mr Ahmedu Baba. The aim of the trip was to seek extra funds for the implementation of the Senegal River Valley Development Organization's [OMVS] projects. The head of state speaks to our correspondent about the results of the trip.

[Begin Traore recording] As I said on my departure from Bamako, the aim of my trip to Kuwait and France, which follows the one I made to the Gulf states 2 years ago with my Senegalese and Mauritanian counterparts, was to seek funds for the OMVS projects, in particular the Diama and Manantiali dams.

As you are all aware, up until today, inflation has caused the cost of the projects to be revised; therefore, it was necessary to seek extra financial resources for these two key projects, and this is what we have just done, that is both President Leopold Sedar Senghor and I. President Mohammed Khouna Ould Haydala was unable to accompany us; therefore, he was represented by his minister of equipment and public works, as you mentioned earlier.

We indeed achieved concrete results, as Hassan Dion said. Kuwait which originally promised $70 million, has raised the sum to $100 million, which represents a 25 percent increase, approximately. France has also agreed to increase its initial contribution by 50 percent. This is mainly what we obtained from the trip we have just made to these two countries, that is Kuwait and France.

Here are the figures which, as I said, are certainly important. But more important for the Senegal River Valley Development Organization is the firm support of these two countries for our organization, as well as other contributors such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Arab Emirates. Indeed this support for the OMVS, based on international solidarity, leads one to hope that the two dams will start functioning between 1984 and 1986. When one knows the good effects that these projects will have on the economies of the three states, in particular on agriculture, the production of electricity and water control, then it is possible to appreciate the importance of the project being undertaken.

I must point out that this trip is only the first leg of a longer tour that we had intended to make, but because of scheduling problems, the trips to West Germany and the other Gulf states were postponed to later dates. Naturally, our trips in search of funds enabled us also to reinforce our relations with the countries we visited.

In particular, I held a private talk with his royal highness the amir of Kuwait which enabled us to draw up measures for reinforcing and developing cooperation between the Kuwait and the Republic of Mali. Let me assure you that his highness, the amir of Kuwait has accepted an invitation to visit our country.

With the president of the French Republic we referred to the international situation, including the burning issue of Chad.

In short, it was a long but fulfilling and valuable trip. Before I end, I would like to thank his royal highness the amir of Kuwait, the Kuwait authorities, the president of the French Republic and all the French authorities for the warm welcome they gave us. Once more I say, I have a lot of faith in and we must all have a lot of faith in the Senegal River Valley Development Organization, which will be a key factor for the rehabilitation of our Sudano-Sahelian region and a springboard for the true economic integration of our three states, in the well founded interest of our people. [end recording]

NIGERIA

SHAGARI LEAVES FOR ZIMBABWEAN INDEPENDENCE CEREMONY

AB181016 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari was among the host of world leaders present in Salisbury at the formal ceremony early today which marked the independence of Zimbabwe. He left Lagos yesterday for the Zimbabwean capital and is due back home tomorrow.

TOGO

MINISTERS PRAISE MILITARY COOPERATION WITH IVORY COAST

AB171540 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Excerpts] The guide of the nation, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, granted two audiences at the presidential palace in Lome this morning. The first to be received by the head of state was Mr Kouadio Mbahia Ble, the Ivorian minister of defense and civic services. The Ivorian minister was accompanied by the Togolese interior minister, Mr Kpotivi Lacle. At the end of his audience, Mr Ble told the press about the military training exchanges between the Ivory Coast and Togo: [begin recording]

[Ble] We have come as friends and brothers to participate in the ceremony to award diplomas to the Ivorian gendarmes who have undergone paracommando training.

[Question] Honorable Minister, is this the first group to have the honor of receiving their diplomas in Togo, or have there been other groups?

[Answer] This is the second group. We intend to continue this training in Togo because we consider it important training that has given us much practice. If his excellency the president allows us to continue, we will continue this training. As you are aware, Togo and the Ivory Coast have been closely allied for a long time in training soldiers and gendarmes. This is very important because we attach a great deal of importance to internal security and to the training of officers for Togo at the armed forces school in Bouake, [Ivory Coast]. We are now training a second group, and a third group will graduate in 1982. [end recording]

Twenty-three Ivorian gendarmes received their paracommando and paratrooper diplomas in Lome this morning at a ceremony held at the paracommando training center in Tokoin. The ceremony was presided over by the minister of interior, Mr Kpotivi Lacle. The latter had at his side Mr Mbahia Ble Kouadio, the Ivorian minister of defense and civic services. The ceremony began with a review of the trainees. Then speeches were given, first by the member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior, Mr Kpotivi Lacle, on behalf of the minister of national defense, Army Gen Gnagssingbe Eyadema. Mr Kpotivi first extended a warm welcome to the invited guests and to the guest minister and asked them to feel at home in Togo. He also commended the cooperation between Togo and the Ivory Coast, especially that in the military field.

[Begin Lacle recording] Dear Ivorian gendarmes, you will certainly understand our legitimate pride in this celebration, which is, after all, very simple. The success of this training program is another proof of the efficient organization of our armed forces by Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, the founding-president and president of the republic. This ceremony proves all the importance that our national helmsman gives to the military, which he wants to be priviledged tool for the defense of national unity and territorial integrity. Like his brother President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, General Eyadema wants the army to be Togo's contribution to the long established bilateral cooperation between our two countries. [end recording]

ANGOLA

SWAPO POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

AB171345 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Comrade Peter (Nariembe), member of the Political Bureau of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia and secretary for defense, has displayed in Luanda parts of the military aircraft belonging to the South African Air Force which was shot down recently by the forces of the people's liberation army of Namibia in their operations area. He also displayed equipments of a South African pilot like a helmet, a communications device and a rifle. On Tuesday, Comrade (Nariembe) held a press conference in Luanda and appealed on behalf of his organization to the international community and certain human rights organizations to urge the Government of South Africa to allow the International Red Cross to provide medical facilities to prisons, concentration camps and torture chambers. He called on the United Nations Organization to set up a commission of inquiry to look into the mysterious disappearance of Namibians.

Yesterday, we presented part of this speech and today we are putting on the air that what Comrade (Nariembe) said on the occasion:

[Begin (Nariembe) recording] Briefly, the enemy continues to bomb and burn villages particularly in the area under the control of SWAPO. The so-called South African Irish Regiment, the unit which has been created for reasons unknown to us, is continuing with its program of murdering the civilian population. This particular unit is there just to harass the people [words indistinct]. The racist forces continue to use Namibia as a springboard to commit aggression against the frontline states, particularly Angola and Zambia. In this regard, SWAPO supports the recent Security Council resolution condemning these acts of aggression. We would like, through the respective governments, to extend our condolences to the families who have lost their beloved ones (?from) the hands of the racist enemy troops during all these aggressive acts against their respective territories. And we would like also to assure them that we appreciate the assistance and the help they are offering to us [words indistinct]. The assistance to SWAPO and to the Namibian people will go down in the history of the liberation of Namibia.

Finally, we would like to invite all those present here at my address to inspect parts of one South African plane brought down by (?some of our) combatants' antiair defense units. You will be able to witness the origins of the guns and all the equipment these planes drop during their mission of murder. Of course, most of the armament and equipment are made in the European countries which pretend [words indistinct] that they want to see a peaceful settlement in Namibia. You will find that all those who play lip service to the struggle of Namibia, their countries are contributing to the murdering of Namibians. [end recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO-SWAPO COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON NUJOMA'S VISIT

LD171548 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 17 Apr 80 EA

[Text] The FRELIMO Party's national headquarters has issued a communique at the end of a visit by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma to Mozambique denouncing South Africa's maneuvers which are aimed at torpedoing the negotiations leading to Namibia's independence.

The communique notes that the victories achieved by the Namibian people (?which have led) to an increasing isolation of the Pretoria regime at international level are the fruit of the political work carried out by SWAPO. The communique also notes that FRELIMO and SWAPO reaffirmed their confidence in a successful outcome of the negotiations leading to the independence, freedom and peace of the Namibian people. The document pointed out that FRELIMO and SWAPO warmly hailed the victory of the Zimbabwean people.

NAMIBIA

JOHANNESBURG: 7 'TERRORISTS' KILLED IN PAST 2 WEEKS

LD181100 Johannesburg International Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Apr 80 CA

[Text] It has been announced in Windhoek that seven terrorists have been killed in the operational area of South-West Africa in the past 2 weeks. A spokesman for South-West Africa Command, Brigadier Bosman, said in Windhoek that 4 of the terrorist had been killed in a skirmish on 13 April and 3 were killed on 15 April after being ambushed by the security forces. He said a large quantity of arms and ammunition had been seized. Brigadier Bosman also said that eight infantry batallions of the South-West Africa defense force did operational service from time to time. He also confirmed that 134 Angolan refugees had arrived at military bases in Owambo. The main reason why the refugees had left Angola was pillaging by SWAPO in the southern part of the country as a result of the famine in the region.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA RETURNS FROM FAR EAST; NICARAUGA'S ORTEGA ARRIVES

LD171454 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Apr 80 CA

[Text] President Kaunda returned back home today from a 12-day visit to the Far East which took him to North Korea, China and India. Dr Kaunda and his entourage was met by hundreds of Lusaka residents who included party secretary general, Mr Mainza Chona, Prime Minister Mr Daniel Lisulo, members of the Central Committee and ministers. The president, who was accompanied by members of the Central Committee, Mr Wesley Nyirenda and Mr Humphrey Mulemba, inspected a guard of honor mounted by the Second Batallion of the Zambia National Defense Force, and was also given a 21-gun salute. Meanwhile, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, arrived in Lusaka today on his way to attend the independence celebrations of Zimbabwe, in Salisbury.

ZIMBABWE

FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ANNOUNCES AID

LD171705 Hamburg DPA in German 1534 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Summary Salisbury--Federal Foreign Minister Genscher announced in Salisbury today that German aid for Zimbabwe this year will amount to DM59 million. On his arrival Genscher also said he hopes that the government led by Robert Mugabe will succeed "in mastering the great task of reconciliation for the benefit of all citizens of the country." In addition to economic aid the minister also announced the early opening of a German Embassy in Salisbury.